

# THE JOURNAL

December 27, 2002

50 cents (tax included)

**Arts** Tommy Davidson headlines Black Comedy Explosion [C3]

**Arts** High Country will bring deep bluegrass roots to New Year's Eve show [C3]

## Entering the new year with resolve

Whether the goal is self-improvement or bettering the world, local people have set goals for 2003

By Martin Snapp  
STAFF WRITER

People have been making New Year's resolutions for more than 4,000 years, ever since the ancient Babylonians. So what



Name of person

are East Bay residents' vows for 2003? We asked some of our neighbors:

**Louis Flynn**, 82-year-old founder and artistic director of the Contra Costa Community Theater in El Cerrito: "My resolution in 2003 is to fight age

discrimination by auditioning only for the juvenile leads, like Curly in 'Oklahoma,' Tony in 'West Side Story' and, of course, Charlie Brown."

**Jim Hartman**, chairman of the Alameda County Republican Party: "I'm going to be kinder and gentler to my wife, Mary, as she is threatening to change her registration from Republican to Democrat, which would reduce the membership of the GOP in

Berkeley by 25 percent."

**Dan Fontes**, Oakland muralist/community activist: "My resolution is to harass Jerry Brown only on days that end with the letter 'Y.'"

**Mark Friedman**, mayor of El Cerrito: "My goal is to appreciate each day, to treat every encounter with someone as if it were the last one, and to spend more time healing and less time wheeling and dealing."

**Eve Ma**, director of San Pablo-based Celebrating Culture & Community, El Cerrito: "I want to work less, learn Spanish, get good at flamenco, and make more TV shows."

**Jewel Okawachi**, incoming mayor of Albany: "I resolve to get rid of 74 years of accumulated stuff in my house. I hate to admit it, but I'm a pack rat. That has got to change!"

**Narsai David**, food critic

/restaurant: "I have two New Year's resolutions. First, I'm going to stop telling telemarketers who call during dinnertime, 'Just a minute, I'll get my dad' and then walking away. Second, I'm going to continue eating and drinking, because somebody has to do it."

**Marge Collins**, former mayor of El Cerrito: "I have three goals:

See RESOLVE, Page A9



MEMBERS sing hymns during the service at the Eastbay Chinese Christian Church in El Cerrito.

EDDIE LEDESMA/STAFF

## Friendship found at Chinese churches

By Wang Feng  
CORRESPONDENT

EL CERRITO — Dressed in her flow-  
sunday suit at the Eastbay Chi-  
Christian Church, Ah Juan con-  
sist she is still "half an atheist."

The 50-year-old waitress has  
come nearly every week for two  
years since she first came to church  
for friendship.

"When I first came here, I didn't  
know anybody and didn't understand  
English," Juan said in Man-  
darin.

She immigrated seven years  
from Shenyang, China, with her  
husband. "Here you can make so many  
friends and they are always willing  
to help you. So when they asked me  
to join, I did."

Juan is one of many Chinese immi-  
grants flocking to churches where  
Mandarin or Cantonese are the lan-  
guages spoken.

Rev. James Chuck, who has  
led the development of Chinese  
churches, estimates that there are 200  
congregations with more than 20,000  
members in the East Bay.

Like Ah Juan, many immigrants  
raised as atheists in a country  
regarded religion as superstition.  
They find temporary housing or  
try to have a nice meal at the  
homes of their more affluent Tai-  
wanese church friends after the ser-

monies need the support of a  
community," said Chuck, a professor at  
the American Baptist Seminary of the  
West in Berkeley. "That's a very strong  
reason why they are attracted to these  
speaking congregations."

Chinese churches in the Bay Area  
include a wide range of denominations



PASTOR DAVID LIU, left, greets church members after a service at the Eastbay Chinese Christian Church.

EDDIE LEDESMA/STAFF

including Baptist, Methodist,  
Lutheran and Salvation Army units,  
according to Chuck's study.

"Most of the new churches are set  
up and attended by fresh immi-  
grants," Chuck said. For the newest  
immigrants, the churches often be-  
come havens of peace and consolation  
when the pressures grow too  
heavy on them.

May Wei never imagined she would  
be reborn a Christian in the United

States. But a few months into her post-  
doctoral studies in chemical engineer-  
ing, the UC Berkeley student felt she  
was close to an emotional breakdown.  
Her hefty workload and worsening re-  
lations with her supervisor were too  
much for Wei to handle. One night  
friends took her to a Bible study group  
organized by the Berkeley Chinese  
Community Church, a Mandarin-speak-  
ing congregation.

"It was unbelievable. Before I went

there my life was all trouble and dif-  
ficulty, but after that everything has  
been so smooth and successful," Wei,  
30, said in Mandarin.

Only a year before, Wei had been  
a stranger to Christianity. Until she  
immigrated in 2001, she lived in Bei-  
jing, China, where the government  
discourages people from going to  
church. "The people there, many of

See CHURCH, Page A5

### YEAR IN REVIEW: 2002

## What the area went through during 2002

STAFF REPORT

A look at Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington people, places and events in the news in 2002:

### January

■ The Friends of Baxter Creek begin battling the Bay Vista development, a 14-home subdivision in the hills near Potrero Avenue. Creek advocates say the development will destroy a small creek in the area. Later in the year, the City Council sides with creek advocates, rejecting a time extension the developer needed to move the project forward. That prompts the developer, Jim Busby, to engage in a legal battle with the city.

■ Hundreds of people celebrate the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. at El Cerrito's 13th annual parade and rally. There are speeches, cheerleading routines, singing and prayer. The parade winds its way from the Department of Motor Vehicles to the city's community center.

### February

■ The middle and elementary schools of the Albany Unified School District receive nearly top scores in the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program. Albany High School goes scoreless though, because too few students take the test.

■ The El Cerrito High and Portola Middle School jazz bands perform in two concert at Yoshi's jazz club in Oakland. The performances are fundraisers for the schools' music programs.

See REVIEW, Page A10

## Panel hopes to improve Albany cable access outlet

By Alan Lopez  
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Clay Larson began attending City Council and School Board meetings and found local politics intriguing. But the meetings were sometimes long and tedious and he thought it would be a great idea if they were televised and he could watch them from home.

"In attending school board and City Council meetings, it occurred to me what a great opportunity to open the process up and let everyone know what's going on," Larson said.

That Albany is one of the few Bay Area cities that fails to broadcast its council meetings is just one of the problems the city has with its public access cable channel 29.

Larson, along with other residents who want either to see council meetings televised or to produce their own programming, has been lobbying the city for improvements.

The council responded by creating a committee of city staff and residents, with goals that include upgrading station equipment, signal and programming content and getting the community, such as volunteers from Albany High School, more involved.

"We want to improve production capabilities so that we can show some local issues, maybe allow a vehicle for local film producers to get some of their things on," said Councilman Allan Maris, a member of the committee.

See CABLE, Page A5

### Library column

■ Consider audio books for those long drives. Page A5

### Schools column

■ New WCCUSD board president brings classroom experience to the post. Page A5



### Martin Snapp

■ Nobody's being harder on Tom Bates right now than Bates himself. Page A3

Police Reports .....	A2
CommunityFolk .....	A3
Opinion .....	A4
Sports .....	C1
Arts .....	C3
Crossword .....	C6

INSIDE

NIGHT RIDER

INFORMATION FOR LIFE



## NEWS BRIEFS

## Albany

## Hearing set on zoning ordinance

The Albany City Council will hold a public hearing on revisions to certain sections of the city's zoning ordinance at 8 p.m., Monday, Jan. 6, at the City Council Chamber, 1000 San Pablo Avenue.

There will be no substantive changes to the following sections of the zoning ordinance: signs, removal of trees, flood damage prevention, capital facilities fee and condominium conversion. The revisions will affect all other sections of the zoning ordinance.

The public hearing may be continued as necessary to complete the council consideration of the recommended revisions.

The council will not take formal action on zoning ordinance revisions at this time. Prior to formal action, an environmental analysis will be completed and made available for public comment.

Reference copies of the draft Revisions to the Zoning Ordinance are available for public review at the Community Development Department, City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue and the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Avenue.

For more information, call 510-528-5760.

## El Cerrito

## Creek advocates will look at petroglyphs

The Friends of Baxter Creek's January meeting will be held from 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 9, at 11780 San Pablo Avenue #D. The meeting will include a presentation on Native American petroglyph boulders of the East Bay, by Leigh Marymor, co-chairperson of the Bay Area Rock Art Research Association (BARARA).

The Baxter Creek watershed has two petroglyph boulders, and Leigh will discuss both of these, within the context of other Central Coast rock art sites. Leigh will also provide an in-depth focus on the Canyon Trail Park rock, which BARARA feels is "one of the premier petroglyph boulders in the Bay Area," and for which BARARA plans to create a conservation plan, in partnership with the community.

The first half of the meeting will focus on business items, including discussion of upcoming projects at Booker T. Anderson Park, and work party planning for the new year. For more information contact Apple at 231-5778 or apple@ainstitute.org.

## Park, rec commission needs members

The city is looking for volunteers to fill a vacancy on the Park and Recreation Commission.

The commission meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Its duties include acting as an advisory council to the City Council and city manager on matters regarding public recreation, parks, playgrounds, landscaping, child care, the arts, education courses and entertainment. It also makes recommendations regarding the annual budget and fees for city-sponsored programs. In addition, the commission assists in planning and promotes public interest in park and recreation facilities.

Applicants must be El Cerrito residents. Applications for the position can be obtained by calling the city clerk at 510-215-4305 or the deputy city clerk at 510-215-4315, or by coming to the city administrative offices, 10890 San Pablo Avenue. Offices are closed every other Friday.

The filing deadline in the city clerk's office is 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 13. The council expects to interview applicants on Tuesday, Jan. 21, prior to the 7:30 p.m. council meeting. Applicants will be notified of the interview schedule.

## Club to visit gardens through slides

The El Cerrito Garden Club will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 9 in the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Bob Neptune will present a slide show on "English Gardens, Japanese & Rose Gardens of Portland, Oregon, and Butterfly Gardens Across The Country." Guests are welcome; \$3 at the door. For more information please call 510-234-0135.

## Golf club expands community program

As part of its 82nd anniversary, the Mira Vista Golf & Country Club has launched an expanded program to aid community and nonprofit charity organizations as well as selected school golf teams, and has dedicated new facilities that represent the most significant enhancement to the club since its founding.

The club's dedication and program launch ceremony drew more than 100 people including El Cerrito civic leaders and Club members such as former San Francisco mayor Art Agnos.

Mira Vista's new facilities include a new clubhouse wing and golf pro shop that complete a multimillion dollar facility enhancement program that began in the mid-1990s.

The Club also formally unveiled a program making its facilities available for golf fundraising tournaments at a not-for-profit rate to approved community charitable organizations. In addition, approved high school and college golf teams will be granted free practice and match time.

For history, photographs and more information, visit the Club's web site at [www.miravistacc.com](http://www.miravistacc.com).

## Authors host writers workshop

Teresa LeYung Ryan, author of "Love Made of Heart," and Simon Wood, author of "Accidents Waiting to Happen," will conduct a workshop for writers at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 17 at Barnes & Noble, El Cerrito Plaza.

"Where are You on Your Writer's Journey" is designed to offer opportunities for writers to practice their story pitches, to report on progress and goals, network, and to form critique groups. It is the first in a planned series of six workshops.

"I always thought that getting a book published meant reaching the finishing line in a race," LeYung Ryan says. "I know now that getting published merely qualifies me to run the race. I want to help aspiring writers so that we can all be runners."

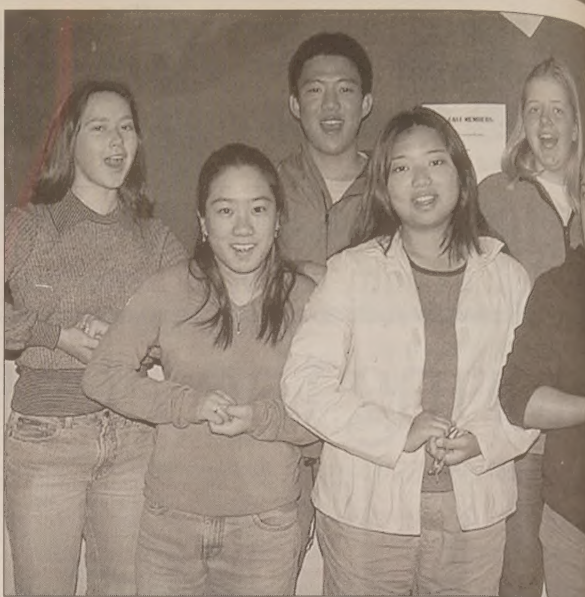
For more information call 510-524-6813.

— Staff reports

## Music students corral honors for Albany High

**CHORALE STUDENTS** from Albany High School (left to right) Erin Kang, Melissa Chen, Francesca Minonne (l to r) Lucia Graves, Brian Hong and Jessica Lindsay recently performed with the California Music Educators' Coastal Regional Honor Choir at San Jose State University. The Chorale, directed by Joan Sextro, is made up of 36 elite singers from the high school.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## ALBANY POLICE

## Wednesday, Dec. 18

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Oakland police reported locating a green '85 Toyota Cressida that had been stolen from Albany. The owner was notified.

## Thursday, Dec. 19

■ **DISTURBANCE** — Shortly after midnight, officers arrested a 19-year-old Berkeley man who was causing a disturbance at a bar on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue. He was charged with causing a disturbance, cited and released.

■ **DUI** — Officers arrested a 32-year-old El Sobrante man near San Pablo and Carlson Avenues for DUI. He was cited and released.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-INS** — A resident on the 1500 block of Beverly Place reported that vandals had broken into his gray '91 Honda during the night. A white '85 Honda Accord on the 1000 block of Ordway Avenue was also broken into. There were no witnesses in either incident.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — Thieves stole a silver '91 Acura Integra from a carport on the 400 block of Talbot Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — A woman reported that unknown thieves had broken into her tan Toyota Corolla while parked on the 1200 block of Marin Avenue.

## Friday, Dec. 20

■ **DUI** — At about 2:30 a.m. officers stopped a silver '89 Honda near San Pablo and Cedar avenues for a vehicle code violation. The driver, an Oakland man, was found to be intoxicated and driving without a license. He was arrested, cited and released.

■ **VEHICLE VANDALIZED** — Vandals keyed a '99 Chevy Astro that was parked on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **EGG-THROWING** — A resident on the 800 block of Madison Street reported that her home was egged during the afternoon. There were no witnesses to the vandalism.

■ **DUI** — At about 11:30 p.m. officers stopped a white '91 Honda Accord that was observed swerving on the 1300 block of Talbot Avenue. The driver, a 36-year-old Berkeley man was found to be intoxicated and driving without a license. He was arrested, cited and released.

## Saturday, Dec. 21

■ **DUI** — At about 2 a.m. officers stopped a silver '89 Honda near San Pablo and Cedar avenues for a vehicle code violation. The driver, an Oakland man, was found to be intoxicated and driving without a license. He was arrested, cited and released.

■ **DUI** — Officers stopped a red '89 Nissan Maxima near Garfield and Kains Avenues for erratic driving at about 3 a.m. They arrested the 31-year-old Berkeley man for DUI. He was cited and released.

## Sunday, Dec. 22

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — Shortly before noon, officers stopped a red '90 Honda near the Buchanan Street Interchange for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 21-year-old Albany man, was found to be standing warrants from San Pablo County totaling \$2,028. He was arrested and released.

■ **DUI** — At about 2:30 a.m. officers stopped a black '98 Honda for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 30-year-old Albany man, was found to be intoxicated and driving without a license. He was arrested for DUI, cited and released.

## Summary

During the week of Dec. 18, officers stopped five vehicles, responded to false alarms, assisted three who were locked out of their cars and responded to two barking dogs. In the same week, officers attended to 19 car accidents and 93 civil accidents, issued 54 citations and warnings. Firefighters responded to two fire calls and one medical emergency.

## EL CERRITO POLICE

## Thursday, Dec. 12

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — The owner's manual and registration were stolen from a Saturn SL on the 2700 block of Del Monte Avenue between 3:30 p.m. on Dec. 12 and 5 a.m. the next day. The passenger door lock was forced open.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Property worth more than \$1,000 was stolen from a vehicle at San Pablo and Knott avenues between 9 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. The right rear window was smashed.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 2002 Kia Optima was stolen from the 900 block of Lexington Avenue between 6 p.m. on Dec. 12 and 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 15.

## Friday, Dec. 13

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1988 Toyota Camry was stolen from the 11300 block of San Pablo Avenue between midnight and 1:30 a.m.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Property worth \$335 was stolen from a vehicle on the 1700 block of Liberty Street between 6:30 p.m. Dec. 13 and 8:30 a.m. Dec. 14. The driver's door lock was pried open.

## Saturday, Dec. 14

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — A 1990 Camry was stolen from the 11700 block of San Pablo Avenue between 4 and 5 a.m. It was recovered by the California Highway Patrol in Vallejo.

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — A man was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting \$265 worth of merchandise at Target. A police officer was inside the store, doing a preventive patrol due to the recent increase in thefts there.

■ **ROBBERY** — A Chevron was robbed of \$100 and lottery tickets by a suspect police believe already committed two robberies there. The man entered the store, simulated a handgun and made off with the cash and lottery tickets.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Clothing and other items worth \$670 were stolen from a vehicle on the 6000 block of Central Avenue between 10 and 11:15 a.m. The right front passenger window was smashed.

## Sunday, Dec. 15

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — Police say four juveniles stole a 1987 Toyota Van at Target and dumped it at the Del Norte BART station. BART police arrested the juveniles for another burglary.

rested the juveniles for another burglary.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1995 Saturn SL2 was stolen from the 700 block of Liberty Street between 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 15 and 7:10 a.m. the next day.

## Monday, Dec. 16

■ **ROBBERY** — A man was attacked and robbed by two men in the parking lot of Best Inn on the 6100 block of Potrero Avenue at 10:02 p.m. The robbers fled.

## Tuesday, Dec. 17

■ **ROBBERY** — A woman was robbed of her purse and \$187 at 10:30 a.m. while she was walking on Eureka Avenue at Liberty Street. A man approached her and forced the purse from her shoulder. He then drove away in a silver Honda.

■ **ROBBERY** — A person was attacked and robbed by two men on the Ohlone Greenway near Wall Avenue at 10:15 p.m. The victim was pushed to the ground by the men and then punched by the other man. The victim's backpack, wallet, cell phone and a skateboard.

## Wednesday, Dec. 18

■ **BREAK-IN** — A storage unit in the 6200 block of Cypress Avenue was entered between 11:15 p.m. on Dec. 18 and 6 a.m. the next day. There was no loss.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1988 Park Avenue was stolen from the shore Boulevard between 10:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.

## Thursday, Dec. 19

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — A person was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting at Target at 11:30 p.m.

Please recycle this newspaper

**HAVE YOU MADE YOUR IRA CONTRIBUTION?**

Blaine J. Davis  
11760 San Pablo Ave.  
Ste. B  
El Cerrito, CA 94530  
Bus 510-237-3495  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**Edward Jones**  
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871  
Member SIPC

Come Home to an Old Friend  
And Bring a Friend

**2 for 1 Breakfast or Lunch**  
\$6.00 maximum  
2nd entree of equal or lesser value free with this ad.  
Exp. 12-31-02  
Dine in only.

**WALKER'S RESTAURANT AND PIE SHOP**

Tues. - Saturday  
Breakfast Lunch & Dinner  
Sunday  
Breakfast & Dinner

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

1491 Solano Ave.  
Albany  
510-525-4647

Grand Opening

**elephant pharmacy**

A New Berkeley Revolution

1607 Shattuck Avenue  
at Cedar Street,  
North Berkeley

**Local Fitness Trainer Gets Better Mobility with Help of Good Feet**

Local Fitness Trainer, Michael Presby, said that before he came in to the Good Feet Store, his feet were sore and hurting. As a fitness trainer, he was concerned about movement, speed and energy.

Now that he's wearing the Good Feet Classic and Flex arch supports, he says that he has more energy and better mobility. He also has more energy and speed.

**Good Feet™**  
Your Arch Support Store  
Balance, Comfort & Support

210-A Broadway  
Millbrae, CA  
• (650) 652-3900

106 So. Park Victoria Dr.  
Milpitas, CA  
• (408) 586-9575

4184-C Piedmont Ave.  
Oakland, CA  
• (510) 655-8520

**THE JOURNAL**

4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA. 94806 • 510-243-5675  
Published every Friday • Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays

Shareef Dajani, general manager • Deborah Byrd, Hills

Subscriptions are \$30 per year if carrier-delivered within the Journal's circulation area. Mail subscriptions within the United States are \$100 per year. To subscribe or report a delivery problem call 800-598-4637.

**EDITORIAL**

All items for publication should reach us 10 days in advance of publication and may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

**NEWSROOM:** 510-243-3575  
**e-mail:** [journals@cttimes.com](mailto:journals@cttimes.com)  
**fax:** 510-243-3574  
**voice mail:** 510-236-9243

**EDITOR Deborah Byrd:**  
510-262-2724 • [dbyrd@cttimes.com](mailto:dbyrd@cttimes.com)

**NEWS STAFF:**  
Alan Lopez: 510-243-3578  
[alopez1@cttimes.com](mailto:alopez1@cttimes.com)  
Clare Curley: 510-243-3576  
[ccurley@cttimes.com](mailto:ccurley@cttimes.com)

**SPORTS:**  
Bill Krussink: 510-748-1652  
[bkussink@cttimes.com](mailto:bkussink@cttimes.com)  
Mike McGreehan: 510-748-1661  
[mmcgreehan@cttimes.com](mailto:mmcgreehan@cttimes.com)  
Scott Strain: 510-748-1662  
[sstrain@cttimes.com](mailto:sstrain@cttimes.com)

**HILLS EDITOR:** Deborah Byrd  
510-262-2724 • [dbyrd@cttimes.com](mailto:dbyrd@cttimes.com)

**ADVERTISING**

Classified advertising deadlines: 11 a.m. the day before publication.

**SALES SUPERVISOR:** Only  
510-339-4062 • [cwhitman@cttimes.com](mailto:cwhitman@cttimes.com)

**CLASSIFIED AND LEGAL:**  
510-339-8777 • [fax:510-339-4062](mailto:fax:510-339-4062)

**REAL ESTATE:** Dennis Barlow  
510-748-1655  
[devanovsky@cttimes.com](mailto:devanovsky@cttimes.com)  
Advertising: 510-339-4048

**RETAIL advertising:**  
510-339-4030 • [fax:510-339-4062](mailto:fax:510-339-4062)

**OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Shareef Dajani  
510-748-1676

**CIRCULATION:**  
Circulation Manager:  
Jan Wasserman  
[jwasserman@cttimes.com](mailto:jwasserman@cttimes.com)  
510-339-4042

Verified Audit Circulation

Recycled newsprint



# Eastshore State Park moves major step toward reality

WITH APPROVAL of a master plan by the state Park and Recreation Commission, the process of creating a new Eastshore State Park has moved from the drawing boards to the development stage.

The plan, emphasizing that the park will be a continuous strip of land that will evolve over time, the commission approved the initial master plan at a public meeting earlier this month.

Commissioners also approved naming it the Eastshore State Park and classifying it as a regional park, the first in the new park system.

The property now officially Eastshore State Park is along the San Francisco Bay between Oakland and Alameda.

Acting as agent for the state, the East Bay Regional Park District acquired the property from the Santa Fe/Catellus Development Corp. for about \$10 million. Funding came from a state park bond act revenue and the park district's Measure AA.

The park district hired the San Francisco consulting firm of Wallace and Todd to steer the master plan through more than two years of public meetings.

Among the main features of the park are 600 acres in Alameda and Albany will be set aside as marine reserves for fish and wildlife.

The Berkeley Meadow, a remnant of a natural state, will be restored to its original habitat and eliminate invasive plants.

More intensive recreation will be allowed in the area just west of the Berkeley Meadow. Facilities include an interpretive center, boathouse and

The Albany plateau north of the Berkeley Meadow would be used for ball and picnic areas. Some of the establishment of ball



**PARK IT**  
Ned MacKay

fields at the site, preferring that it remain in a more natural state. The plan allows for continued efforts to resolve that issue.

■ The Albany neck and bulb would be left in a natural state with two water-access points for windsurfers. The plan calls for continued exploration of ways to accommodate public art in the park because local artists have been creating artwork out of driftwood and discarded items.

■ The off-leash dog area at Point Isabel would be expanded to include the area just north of the existing regional park.

Stephen Hammond, WRT director of planning, said the plan balances preservation of scenic and natural resources with providing public access to the shoreline.

According to Pat O'Brien, East Bay Regional Park District's general manager, the first Eastshore State Park facilities likely to open will be trail connections. Some already exist, and Caltrans is building more. Some grants are available to help fund construction of playing fields.

In addition, O'Brien noted, the park district is in the process of acquiring 16 acres just south of Gilman Street in Berkeley from MEC Land Holdings (California) Inc. The appraised value is \$12 million. MEC has offered it for \$8.5 million. Funds for the purchase will come from Measure AA, the park district's open space bond issue approved by voters in 1988.

There are many possible future uses for the site, ranging from habitat preservation to active recreation.

Because the property was not part of the Eastshore State Park planning process, it will



HERMAN BUSTAMANTE JR./STAFF

ALAN KAPLAN, the "Wise Guy from the East," led a "Mid-day Meander" earlier this month at Pt. Pinole Regional Park in search of migrating Monarch butterflies, which could not be found. Park rangers have since reported Monarchs in the park, which is known for its winter clusters of the orange-and-black butterflies.

require a site-specific land use planning study with environmental review and public input. It has been suggested as a potential alternative site for the Albany plateau ball fields.

For more specifics of the Eastshore State Park master plan, see the Web site at [www.eastshorestatepark.org](http://www.eastshorestatepark.org).

## Holiday programs

Holiday season programs are continuing at Tilden Regional Park's Environmental Education Center.

Naturalist Alan Kaplan, who bills himself as the Wise Guy from the East (he grew up in the Bronx), will host a Dickens' Carol and Fezziwig's Ball from 1-3 p.m. Sunday Dec. 29 at the education center. Learn the origins of the season's traditions, as well as some dance steps.

This is for all ages, but parents must accompany their children. Again, the fee is \$5 or \$7, and registration is required. Phone 510-636-1684.

## Monarch update

By the way, Alan's nature walk at Pt. Pinole on Dec. 3 resulted in no sightings of monarch butterflies. But the park rangers have told me that the monarchs now have started to arrive. As of this writing, there have been no clusters in the trees, though, just individual butterflies fluttering by.

Ned MacKay, retired East Bay Regional Park District public information supervisor, writes a weekly column about East Bay parks. If you have a question or comment for Ned, e-mail him at [nedmackay@atbi.com](mailto:nedmackay@atbi.com).

# Amid all the outcry, Bates his own worst critic

I HOPE YOU HAD a merry Christmas, because Tom Bates sure didn't.

It's been more than a month since the story broke about his dumping some Daily Cal's in the trash, and the media are still piling on. (And, as George Bush would say, rightly so.)

But lately the criticism has taken a cruel turn, with one local columnist gleefully fantasizing an imaginary dinner table conversation between Bates and his wife, Assemblywoman Loni Hancock, and another columnist saying he won't be happy until Bates is in an orange jumpsuit collecting trash by the side of the road.

(Like anyone else, we journalists are most sensitive when it's our own ox that's being gored. I wonder if you'd be hearing quite so many cries of outrage if he had violated the Second Amendment instead of the First.)

But the hits Bates is taking are nothing compared to the job he's doing on himself. I spent some time with him last week. And what I saw was a man in pain. He's still beating himself up. He looked like he hadn't slept in a week.

The problem is that, unlike most politicians, Bates actually believes all that stuff about liberty and democracy and freedom of speech. That he, of all people, was the one who violated it — "and at Sproul Plaza, of all places, the birthplace of free speech in Berkeley!" he said ruefully — is something for which he can't forgive himself.

Unlike Trent Lott, who mostly seems sorry that he got caught, Bates is honestly mortified by what he did. His friends are trying to console him by telling him that his act was a one-shot aberration in an otherwise unblemished career (again unlike Lott, whose hateful words were just the latest in a long string of race-baiting incidents). But he won't listen.

"I feel like I threw away my reputation as an honest man with one stupid act," he told me. "And next to my family, my



**MARTIN SNAPP**  
Snapp Shots

good name is the most important thing in my life."

Ironically, that fateful day was also the day the State Park Commission finally approved Bates' beloved East Bay Shoreline State Park, which he'd spent almost 30 years trying to bring about. "It should have been the happiest day of my life," he said. "Instead, it was the worst."

I'm not trying to minimize the seriousness of what he did. All I'm saying is that the man is truly sorry. Unlike Trent Lott, he really does "get it" — perhaps too well. He's doing everything he can think of to do penance. And Lord knows, he'll never do it again. Now, can't we move on?

Hard as it is to believe, politicians are human beings, too. I watched Bates' predecessor, Shirley Dean; and I saw how she was almost physically wounded by some of the hateful things people said about her, to the point that her friends started worrying about her health. Now I see the same thing happening to Bates.

I've spent the last eight years trying to convince half of Berkeley that Shirley Dean isn't a monster. Now do I have to spend the next four years convincing the other half that Tom Bates isn't, either?

He's more like the Jimmy Stewart character in "It's a Wonderful Life" — a decent man in trouble. Yes, he made a mistake. But he doesn't need a shove off the bridge; he needs his friends and neighbors rallying around.

Let's start the New Year with a little compassion.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail [mnsnapp@cctimes.com](mailto:mnsnapp@cctimes.com)

# Gateview security guard goes for fun and uniform

WOMEN ARE IN so many jobs these days that Tracy Reed is one of the province. She is a security guard at Gateview, the high-rise condominium complex in Alameda. With 485 units, Gateview is one of the largest security guard posts in the area.

Reed did this friendly, soft-spoken woman go into this line of work was a surprise. "I always liked uniforms," she says with a smile. "And this gave me a reason to wear

Reed finds Gateview always interesting. "I like it and I like the

what training the had to have, again she me. Except for in-



**CLARA-RAE GENSER**  
Community Folk

house information, such as location of emergency supplies, how to answer inquiries and the rules of the complex, they get no particular training.

What if they see something suspicious or troublesome, or a resident makes a serious complaint? They call the police. "Don't try to apprehend anybody," they are told. "That's what the police are for."

Security guards at Gateview interact with the residents, answering questions, taking in and

giving out packages, supervising parking and screening visitors. They also walk through the garage and halls on a regular basis, checking that all is well. When we talked, Reed was in uniform (with a black windbreaker over it, because it is always very cold in the garage at Gateview). She loves the work.

Born in Oakland, and raised in Richmond, Reed tried going to Contra Costa College after she graduated high school in 1989, but, "school seemed not to be my forte, thanks to a learning disability. Something like dyslexia." She paused, then added, "I didn't let it get me. I went on and made a life."

She worked for the state, in

child care, making the unlivable wage of \$4.75 an hour. When she saw an ad for an opening with Burns, the need for a livable wage and the love of uniforms came together and she applied. They put her on a construction job at UC Berkeley, in Wells Fargo Bank, at Emery Bay in Emeryville and, finally, in Gateview.

With her mother, she is bringing up her niece, her brother's child. She also volunteers at the Boys and Girls Clubs and at bingo games. She says she enjoys paying winners and selling Bonanza cards. She plays now and then and even wins "occasionally."

"I love sports," she says, "Par-

ticularly soccer. I also love movies, and being with my family. I study karate every week, and am working for my blue belt now."

Reed wants to go back to school for training as a correctional officer. But for now, she's doing what she enjoys, and "having a life."

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? Write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is [crgenser@aol.com](mailto:crgenser@aol.com).

**Earth Circles**  
Holistic Psychotherapy  
Licensed Therapists  
COUNSELING CENTER  
510.601.1929  
[www.earthcirclescounseling.com](http://www.earthcirclescounseling.com)

**Spoil Yourself**  
Take time away from your hectic, pressured day and enjoy Skin and Body Services in a Tropical Setting.  
**Complexion Connection**  
4110 Redwood Rd., #101 • Oakland, CA 94619 • Next to Lincoln Square  
510-482-8884  
Mention this ad and save \$10.00 off any service.

**建發石材總匯**  
**SUPERIOR MARBLE CENTER**  
• Specialized in Kitchen Countertops  
• Vanities  
• Tub  
• Cabinets  
• Special Floor Tiles  
• Countertop (CT)  
78" X 26" CT ONLY \$68.00 AND UP  
• FABRICATION • INSTALLATION  
Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
LOCATION: 5532 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, CA 94608  
PARKING: 5630 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, CA 94608  
TEL: 510-595-6668  
FAX: 510-595-7668  
DOWNTOWN OAKLAND  
S ST  
N ST  
WE ARE HERE  
96 STREET  
PARKING

**WHAT THE TRAVELLER SAW**  
THE WORLD CULTURE GENERAL STORE  
**STOREWIDE SALE!**  
Including All African Art  
Jewelry, Textiles, Masks  
**Our Largest Sale Ever!**  
[www.culturestore.com](http://www.culturestore.com)  
128 La Salle Avenue • Montclair Village  
510-339-8152  
Store Hours: Monday - Friday 11-7,  
Saturday 10-6, Sunday 12-5

**ATTENTION!** **TERMITES** Certified  
You might not need to tent for termites!  
**HiTech** termite control  
OF THE BAY AREA  
ADVANCED MICROWAVE TECHNOLOGY  
TERMITE CONTROL WITHOUT THE HASSLE  
NO MOVE OUT -- NO TENTING  
NO ROOF OR LANDSCAPE DAMAGE  
CONDO - APARTMENT SPECIALIST  
3 YEAR WARRANTY  
We'll tent if needed.  
Our 3-year Full-Structure Warranty covers all species of termites whether the Microwave System or Tent Fumigation is used.  
SERVING THE ENTIRE METROPOLITAN BAY AREA  
888-322-8889  
[www.hitechtermite.com](http://www.hitechtermite.com)  
CA LIC PR 4138

**HARRY CLARK**  
PLUMBING & HEATING INC.  
Lic. #792463  
**Trenchless Sewer Replacement**  
**Video Camera Inspections**  
Family Owned & Operated Since 1946  
**PHCC**  
Sewer Replacement Specialists  
Drain Cleaning Specialists  
Electronic Locating  
**510 444-1776**  
3026 BROADWAY • OAKLAND



GENERAL MANAGER • SHAREEF DAJANI  
HILLS EDITOR • DEBORAH BYRD

ALBANY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON

## THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

## EDITORIAL

## We need to shift gears to ease transport woes

**A**C TRANSIT is cutting back on its routes in the face of a \$30 million deficit. The Valley Transportation Authority in Santa Clara County is making massive service trims and may delay a BART extension due to a nearly \$57 million projected deficit.

Such moves are only a small indicator of what's happening nationwide: two-thirds of transit agencies have lost riders and more than half have lost money, according to a survey conducted by the American Public Transportation Association.

Blame the economic downturn? Sure, it would have been nice if we'd saved money during the dot-com boom, taxed SUV sales or made other moves to put some of that fat to good use for more BART stations and parking lots, an electric vehicle network and the like. But that didn't happen.

Now, public coffers are bare, and transport services are being slashed fast — ironically, at a time, when many are questioning our continued dependence on foreign oil.

While new taxes and related funding legislation may help, they're no long-term answer.

What we need instead is a radical rethinking, more decentralized transportation solutions and incentives — rather than disincentives — to get us to use BART and other shared public or private means of getting around.

Residents complain regularly and bitterly about the lack of BART parking. If lots can't be expanded, small buses, vans or other networks should be encouraged to address that need; they could be public, private or semi-private.

These vans and other services could operate somewhat like the casual carpool lines, which pair passengers with drivers for use of the carpool lane on the Bay Bridge. In other words, they would focus on key commuting times and on smaller, more efficient means of getting around.

We don't have to look far for new ways to improve public transit.

A group of Oakland religious organizations has organized a van service, for instance, to address the needs of seniors who don't qualify for disabled transit but who still need to travel. In Livermore, planners are working on a diesel-powered rail system that would be cheaper, faster to build and more politically acceptable than a plan to extend BART to the downtown area.

Transportation is a public service that plays a crucial role in our communities. Rather than taking the standard slash-and-burn attitude, residents and public officials should address the transportation crisis with new ways of thinking and a true willingness to consider diverse needs and radical solutions.

## NO EXIT

© Andy Singer

## BLAMING THE VICTIMS



## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

## State Senate

**Don Perata:** (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942649, Sacramento, CA 94269, 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3685. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov.

## Assembly

**Dion Louise Aroner:** (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942649, Sacramento, CA 94269, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660. Fax: 510-540-3655; 101 Broadway, Richmond, CA 94804, 510-234-0211. Fax: 510-234-0213. E-mail: dion.aroner@assembly.ca.gov.

## County Supervisors

**John Giola:** (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-

3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

**Keith Carson:** (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

## Cities

**El Cerrito:** City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

**Albany:** City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

**Kensington:** Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395 Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

## School board members

**West Contra Costa Unified School District:** 510-620-2246

**Albany Unified School District:** 510-558-3766

**David Farrell,** Albany school board president: 510-528-9209

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

## AHHH...THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



SOME THINGS SHOULD JUST BE SOLD SEPARATELY. I'M RETURNING 11 OF THE 12 ENGAGEMENT RINGS MY FIANCÉE BOUGHT.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Tarnished election

Thank you for the Journal's editorial addressing the tactics used by the Sandi Potter and Janet Abelson campaigns during the recent El Cerrito City Council election.

However, asking winners Potter and Abelson, and their supporters on the council, Mark Friedman and Letitia Moore, to investigate their own alleged legal and ethical campaign violations is like asking Haldeman, Erlichman and Liddy to investigate the Watergate burglaries.

Fraudulent and inflammatory campaign literature was widely distributed by these candidates and their backers a few days before the election, giving their target, incumbent Kathie Perka, no opportunity to respond. Abelson and Friedman mailed out smarmy, self-serving "poison pen" letters attacking Perka's ability and character by innuendo.

Money was poured into Potter and Abelson's campaigns by out-of-town developers eager to buy council approval for their high-density rental projects and crowded single-home subdivisions in El Cerrito, which had been opposed by Perka.

I've lived in El Cerrito since 1964 and have never before witnessed a campaign as venomous and deceitful as that conducted by the winning candidates during this election. The triumphant quartet of Abelson, Potter, Friedman and Moore, which now controls our City Council, is already tarnished by allegations of conflicts of interest, election-code violations and possible illegalities.

These issues should be promptly and diligently investigated by the city attorney. If she is reluctant to proceed, I believe objective higher authorities should be asked to conduct such an inquiry in the immediate future.

Joan T. Cohn  
El Cerrito

## Unfair ticket

It appears the city of Albany has found a new fund-raiser, or at least one I have never come across before.

On Nov. 18, I parked on Cornell Avenue for an hour and a half. I noticed there were occasional cones along the sidewalk, which I assumed had to do with local construction.

I parked well away from any cones and was startled to see a \$27 ticket on my windshield when I returned to my car. There were also many other cars parked on the street that had tickets.

Then I noticed the blue paper on the back of the cones stating there would be street sweeping from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Other cities install permanent signs announcing street sweeping days and times, which is a fair and reasonable way to notify the public. Furthermore, they do not prohibit parking for the entire day. Shame on you, city of Albany.

Rhoda Alvarez  
Berkeley

## Meniketti will be missed

I am writing to thank you for your article about the late Dario Meniketti in a recent issue of the Journal. He was also remembered fondly at an Albany City Council meeting, where his absence was felt by all.

Since his passing, I have enjoyed

learning more details of Meniketti's life, beyond his remarkable City Council meeting attendance record (he only missed two meetings in 30 years). He embodied Ralph Nader's credo: "There can be no daily democracy without daily citizenship."

Meniketti is a true civic hero.

I look forward to a celebration of his life and his many contributions to Albany at a public memorial being planned for February. He is dearly missed by many, many friends.

David Arkin  
Albany

## Two-sided coin

There are those among us called "liberals"; individuals who allow themselves to be open to new ideas, to not merely accept every popular notion regarding what is of value without engaging in some critical thinking, and who are uncomfortable with limiting their social concerns to what supports their self-interest.

These liberal-minded persons, also, always harbor concepts which they are satisfied with keeping conservatively unchanged.

Those individuals called "conservatives" are persons who have thus far adequately resisted becoming more liberal. They see the ideas espoused by liberals as ridiculous or naive, until the idea eventually becomes accepted by a seeming majority, at which point they consider it "common knowledge."

Haven't all of the most practical and creative solutions for our social problems contained elements of liberalism and conservatism? If so, it is vitally important liberals and conservatives work together on social problems, respectfully and harmoniously; debating and cooperating, not name-calling and competing for power.

In fact, let's let go of the whole identity-thing and simply judge the value of the ideas, be they liberal or conservative. We need both. It must be "and," not "either/or."

How sad it is to see liberals and conservatives having almost completely given up on establishing objectives together and working toward their fulfillment. Instead they remain stuck in a constant struggle to keep or gain more political power — virtually using all their energy and time for campaigning.

Ron Greenstein  
El Cerrito

## A grateful senior

Thanks to Booster News, Albany Senior Center's monthly newsletter, 87-year-old Vi Schefer went home to Virginia for the holidays on Southwest Airlines to visit her only daughter, her son-in-law and two granddaughters, whom she hadn't seen

in years.

Vi, a member of the Albany Senior Center for more than 30 years, is thankful the center included Southwest Airlines' "Home for the Holidays" program in its newsletter. Imagine the prize when she won the free ticket; airlines held a reception, which was entertainment, for all ticket winners.

Vi says the senior center helps her busy and informed, and gives her opportunity to socialize with friends help others.

All adults 60 years and older are welcome to visit the center at 948 Main Ave., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Boykin is the center's senior supervisor.

## Impossible to ignore

What in the world is going on in our city? After lying for a month, Mayor Bates has admitted to suppressing newspaper's publication because of opinion.

Bates and the City Council will take a stand to defend the U.S. Constitution, yet all took an oath to do so.

Would the City Council have passed resolution condemning President Bush? He had thrown Florida newspapers out. Certainly it would have.

How can we possibly ignore the rogation of the Constitution? What we saying to our children and ourselves?

Bates should resign, run again in special election, and let the citizens of Berkeley decide whether he should remain as mayor.

Lloyd M...

## Budget crisis

Every day there is something in the news about the drastic cuts needed to balance the budget deficit and the impact these cuts will cause, particularly in schools.

It hardly seems good for our state country to have these wild fluctuations in our ability to provide the most public services such as education, health care, and transportation. I wonder why this seems to keep happening every level of government every year?

I mean, we advise our children to save for a rainy day, our workers to invest their IRAs and 401(k)s, and even squirrels in my back yard bury nuts for the winter. But for some reason, leaders, and maybe some citizens of our country, are shortsighted and do not take this lesson to heart.

I say we aim for not just a balanced budget but one that allows us to have something saved for the lean years.

James Sch...

## HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

MAIL: 4301 Lakeside Drive,  
Richmond, CA 94530

FAX: 510-644-1735

E-MAIL: journal@cctimes.com



# Player brings new ideas to board

S PATRICIA PLAYER begins her stint as president of the West Contra Costa Unified School District. She has three years' experience on the board to draw on as well as 33 years teaching. She also sought additional training in the anticipation of selection to the board. Fellow board members will turn over the reins to her in October. Player completed a comprehensive school governance program offered through the California School Boards Association called Masters in Governance.

According to the association's Web site ([www.csb.org](http://www.csb.org)), the program consists of 60 hours of instruction and participation, and "is recognized as a model for the nation. It's built on a decade of research and practical application, and directly with elected school board members."

Program participants attend sessions, which define the roles and responsibilities of school governance teams and provide tools that keep efforts focused on student learning. "The training helped flesh out the ideas she'd been mulling over for her leadership role, and she's been largely on improving ways different parties in the district work together."

A key lesson from the training, Player says, is a reminder that the board's role is to set policy and make sure the district stays focused on its student achievement goals. Board members also serve as public-relations advocates to support the school system. But the details of managing the district need to be left up to the person hired to do that job: the superintendent.

The training reinforced Player's desire to refine the way the district conducts negotiations with its employee groups. Many districts, she explains, use a less adversarial — and quicker — approach called interest-based negotiations. Each side, she explains, brings to the table only its top three to five priorities, and a mediator works with the two sides from the beginning.

"The current approach takes too much time and energy away from our main job, which is to educate children," she says. The school district already uses this approach with the bargaining unit that represents administrators.

Another goal of Player's is to make board meetings more efficient. The purpose of the meetings, she explains, is for board members and the superintendent to



BETTY KING BUGINAS  
Schools

discuss the issues and try to understand another's point of view so they can make the best possible decisions.

If too many items are on the agenda, or too much time is taken simply gathering information or with various presentations, the important discussions take place late into the night. She is aiming to limit each agenda to three action items and three discussion-only items. Unless there is an emergency item, her goal is to have academic issues only discussed at the first meeting of the month, and facilities-related issues discussed at the second meeting.

Information from the staff should be gathered ahead of time as much as possible. To give the public an alternative opportunity to give input and ask questions, she is planning to hold "conversation groups" at each of the district's middle schools, roughly one every six weeks beginning in February. At least one board member and possibly a staff member will be at each session.

Betty King Buginas is a teacher in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

discuss the issues and try to understand another's point of view so they can make the best possible decisions.

If too many items are on the agenda, or too much time is taken simply gathering information or with various presentations, the important discussions take place late into the night.

She is aiming to limit each agenda to three action items and three discussion-only items. Unless there is an emergency item, her goal is to have academic issues only discussed at the first meeting of the month, and facilities-related issues discussed at the second meeting.

Information from the staff should be gathered ahead of time as much as possible. To give the public an alternative opportunity to give input and ask questions, she is planning to hold "conversation groups" at each of the district's middle schools, roughly one every six weeks beginning in February. At least one board member and possibly a staff member will be at each session.

Betty King Buginas is a teacher in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

## Church

FROM PAGE A1

them students like me, were incredibly nice. They genuinely helped you shoulder the mental burden and take delight in your improvement," she said.

"All my old ideas about what the church was like — a place for old and weak people — turned out to be so wrong," she said.

Even a skeptic like Ah Juan says she finds solace in the church. "I am trying to believe in God," said Ah Juan, who was baptized last Christmas. "I think I am getting close."

But not everyone's encounter with the church is as rosy. Many members and former members say the congregations can become battlegrounds, split by the same tensions that divide Chinese back home.

The divisions are a common phenomenon in Chinese-speaking churches, said the Rev. Edwin Mung, pastor of the United Church of Christ in Berkeley.

Sometimes the tensions revolve around money. While those from the affluent island usually travel heavy — with their families and their wealth — to the United States, their poorer compatriots from the other side of the Taiwan Strait often arrive with little more than their bare hands, hoping to strike it big in America.

Sometimes they are political. Taiwan split from the mainland in 1949 after the Nationalists,

a.k.a. Kuomintang, lost to the Communists in an all-out civil war. China has since said it will reunify the island, by force if necessary. The island's independence-minded President Chen Shui-bian has repeatedly defied Beijing's threats by buying billions of dollars' worth of fighter planes, submarines and missiles from the United States.

The Chinese congregations in the East Bay are often home to immigrants from both places, and the church-goers sometimes bring the simmering dispute into the sanctuary.

"I got very angry when people got political and the Taiwanese attacked the Chinese government in very vicious language at our Bible discussion sessions," said 52-year-old massage therapist Limei Ma, who immigrated from northeast China to El Cerrito five years ago. "Some of my better-educated friends were able to debate with them; I just quit going there."

It is left to the pastors to try to unify their divided congregations.

"We try to educate our congregation to respect people with different cultural backgrounds," Mung said. His church offers services in Cantonese and English to some 110 Chinese immigrants, including those from the mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan. "But some people are really keen on politics and some churches can not very well control the situation."

The Mandarin Baptist Church,

one of the biggest Chinese congregations in San Francisco, split into two last year following a long and bitter dispute between groups of enthusiastic church goers. Some 80 mostly elderly members walked out of the church on Judah Street late last year and set up their own assembly in a borrowed nursery 20 blocks down the same street. More than 200 others chose to stay at the old church.

People of the spin-off congregation, now named the True Light Baptist Church, said they were dissatisfied with the ways of their former pastor, the Taiwan-born Rev. Paul Chou.

Chou had ousted the church's China-born founder, 80-year-old Rev. Henry Mu and another church executive representing mainland Chinese immigrants shortly before the break-up. "There was a uproar after Pastor Chou did that but he didn't give us a good explanation," said church worker He Kuan, an immigrant from the Chinese capital of Beijing. "That's one of the reasons why we left," he said.

Mu, who is now interim pastor of the new congregation, declined comment. Pastor Chou, now head of the Mandarin Baptist church, confirmed the secession in a telephone interview but refused to discuss the causes. "I can only say we are under the guidance of God," he said.

Wang Feng is a free-lance writer who lives in Berkeley.

# Audio books make commute tolerable

of the week: Children's books are written...but upbringing is what thing: it decides the fate of the human being."

—Vissarion Grigor'evich Belinsky (1811-1841)

WAS RECENTLY talking to my North Carolina daughter about her 30-minute commute to work. "Are you listening to books on tape?" I asked. "I would," she said, "if I had books on CD, because we only have a CD player in the car."

It was a subject she had a lot of thought to, because in my family we have heard many stories, starting with "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien, through "To Kill a Mockingbird," (all 11 tapes), and "Poetry Speaks: Hear Poets Read Their Poetry," by Thomson to Plath, a three-part set. Not to mention one of my favorites, an old British recording of "Winnie-the-Pooh," the story I think of as personally representing life: "Eeyore's Day."

Today, I'm going to talk about the many spoken-word audiocassettes and CD's available in libraries today. If you have never listened to a story on tape or CD, you might like to try it. Maybe for a long time by yourself or with a



JULIE WINKELSTEIN  
At the Library

friend or child, or if you are busy doing something with your hands and eyes, like wrapping presents, but need something for your mind. Or maybe just to relax and enjoy the feeling of using your imagination, while someone reads to you, not unlike the way some of us used to listen to stories on the radio (anyone remember Hopalong Cassidy?)

If you have a book you'd like to hear rather than read, you can look it up in the library catalog, just like a book. If you like the idea, but have no specific title in mind, you can use the catalog to give you a list of books on tape or books on CD available at your library. Both the Contra Costa and the Alameda County Library systems have fiction and non-fiction on audiocassettes and CD's — both in children's and adult's. Ask at the reference desk in your library for help in finding these.

When I was commuting to work, books on tape made the commute tolerable and sometimes even enjoyable. In fact, I

remember sitting in the car, once I'd arrived, just to listen to the end of a book. And for me, and many of my fellow commuters, the reader is as important as the material.

One of my favorites is Will Patton, the actor, who, by changing his voice, can become anyone. One book he reads is "Gone South," by Robert McCammon. At one point in the story, when yet another strange character is introduced, I found myself glancing over at my tape player, as if I could actually see the person there.

**READER REVIEW:** And now, in keeping with today's subject, I have a book review from Donna, for a book she listened to on CD, in her car. The book is "Bel Canto" by Ann Patchett and Donna says it is appropriate for older teens to adults. It is about "a birthday party gone bad. People go to the party and end up being taken hostage by terrorists."

One thing she really liked about the book was the way "the author took people from both sides and went into their backgrounds — how they wound up there." Donna says the reader, Anna Fields, changed voices for different characters, and did a great job.

Comments? Suggestions? I can be reached at the Albany Library or at [jwinkelstein@acclibrary.org](mailto:jwinkelstein@acclibrary.org)

## Cable

FROM PAGE A1

Among the goals is getting council meetings broadcast, the issue dearest to Larson. "I think it opens up the process, and lets people see what's going on," Larson said.

"To me it has a lot of potential benefits," Maris agreed. "We get anywhere from three to 30, maybe 100 people for some meetings. That's a pretty small fraction of the population. Put it on the cable channel and you get much more exposure to issues."

It's a potential that has gone untapped, Larson said. "In the past there's been some activity, it just didn't sit there," he said.

"But it kind of went to a real low point a couple of years ago."

About four years ago, the city ran a short promotional video for a waterfront park plan, according to Maris, though little else has been done to take advantage of the channel.

The station needs work: The production and transmission equipment is old and there is little programming on the air — right now, about seven minutes out of every 24 hours, according to viewer Larson.

AT&T Broadband, Albany's cable service provider, is required by law to give the city access to at least one channel for the use of public, education or government programming.

# Bay Area air district urges limit on fireplace use

BY BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is urging local residents to limit the burning of wood in their fireplaces during the winter season.

Air district spokeswoman Teresa Lee says that wood smoke can be a hazard inside and outside the home. The tiny particles in wood smoke can be inhaled deep into the lungs and remain there for a lifetime. The smoke contains toxic substances that can contribute to respiratory diseases.

Lee says garbage and glossy paper should not be burned. These materials can release toxic chemicals into the air when burned.

More information is available online at [www.sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org).

**EARTHQUAKE Automatic Gas Valve**  
Saves Lives and Property  
The most common cause of earthquake-related fires is broken gas lines.  
(USGS Earthquake Hazards Program, June 14, 2000)  
Automatic gas valve automatically shuts off the gas flow during an earthquake.  
Call 510 848-2500 for a FREE  
Installation & Inspection of your gas appliances for earthquake preparedness.  
CREATIVE PLUMBING & CONSTRUCTION CO., Inc. Lic #547280  
State of California Approved

**ALPHA GRANITE & MARBLE**  
SAN LEANDRO 1235 Merced Street Phone 510-337-6197 Fax 510-337-6197  
SANTA CLARA 5500 Martin Avenue Phone 650-865-0956 Toll Free 1-877-662-7253  
SACRAMENTO 1235 Free Drive Phone 916-546-8705 Toll Free 1-877-472-6483  
www.alphagranite.com

**HEALTH AT HOME AND AWAY!**  
STEPHEN J. SOMMER, MD  
SUZANNE SOMMER, NP  
Family Practice  
We Have Every Vaccine Needed To Travel  
Anywhere In The World.  
Official US-Government Yellow Fever Vaccination Center\*  
Hills Physicians Provider Most insurance accepted 4333 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, CA 94611 (510) 654-2494

**NOT SURE WHAT TO COOK THIS WEEKEND?**  
Shopping Plus  
Look inside for local advertising circulation every Friday  
Tote cuisine: beyond the bologna sandwich  
Let Hill Newspapers' Shopping Plus cook something up for you.  
Call to subscribe: 1-800-598-4637

**BERKELEY FARMERS' MARKET**  
11th Annual  
**HOLIDAY CRAFTS FAIR**  
a benefit for the Ecology Center  
Saturdays, Nov 30, December 7, 14 & 21  
10 am - 4 pm  
Civic Center Park (by the market) Center St. & MLK Berkeley (510) 548-3333 www.ecologycenter.org  
Free Admission Handcrafted gifts by local artists Music • Massage • Hot Apple Cider

**A Residential Community**  
Caring for People with Alzheimer's/Dementia  
"Individual Care Offering Private Rooms"  
**NOW OPEN!**  
"NEAR LAKE MERRITT IN OAKLAND"  
LAKESIDE PARK  
468 Perkins Street, Oakland, CA  
For more information Call  
**510-444-4684**  
Lic #RCFE015600612



THANK YOU

**Skates on the Bay Restaurant  
Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto  
Ashby Home Furniture**


for your participation in the November  
**We Give Thanks Month** fundraiser for  
BFHP

Also supporting BFHP:  
Chez Panisse  
Whole Foods Market  
KC's BBQ

These businesses gave a portion of  
their proceeds to help feed the  
hungry in Berkeley.

For more information, call Marci Jordan at  
BFHP.

**Berkeley Food and  
Housing Project**  
2140 Dwight Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
(510) 649-4965





# Calendar

Page C6

before the Reading... that, reservations are... Call at 644-6648 to set up a... session.

## Meetings

**Margolin**, one of America's... trial and appeal attor-... "Civil Liberties, Terror-... Security—Challenges for Israel... at 7 p.m. on Jan. 12, at... El Arch and Vine, Berke-... sponsor is Bridges to Is-... A voluntary \$5 fee is re-... For more information, call 510...

## Miscellany

**Circle**, a Jewish club for... meet 11:30 to 1:30 p.m... at the Oakland Senior... Grand Avenue. The club is... program of Berkeley Rich-... Community Center. Activi-... day trips, Jewish holiday... theater outings, entertain-... and much more. Call... 88-0237 ext. 115 for details.

**speaking skills** by at-... Berkeley Communicators'... meetings, the first and third... each month at 7:15 a.m... 3250 Adeline St. Call... for more information.

**Camera Club** meets... evenings 7:30 p.m. at the... Community Church, 941 The... Show your slides and prints... what other photographers are... field trips. For more de-... call 525-3565.

**American Veterans Chap-**... on the third Tuesday of the... evening begins with a no... and fellowship at 7 p.m. at... St. St. A short business meet-... at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St... Memorial Building. Price:... who have had relatives in... are invited to attend and... Details: R. DeRiti, 444... 25, 916-372-8364.

**CA** offers free orientations of... Point Career Center. The ori-... the resources available... and the great variety of... field every Tuesday, 1:30... Training Point Career Center is... 2600 Bancroft Way. For more... call 848-6370.

**Avatar Metaphysics**... Club meet on the first and... days, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.,... 2515 Hillgass Ave. Public speaking... metaphysics come together... call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

**Toastmasters Club** meet... the first and third Thursdays at... 2515 Hillgass Ave. The group special-... its communication... speaking skills in the field of... The group also learn from... through short speeches. Call... at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

**Senior Activity Cen-**... Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2... 2515 Hillgass Ave. The center's... program of life-long learning... by the West Contra Costa... Attend any class or event... Everyone over 55 is wel-... 528-9146 or 547-1969 for

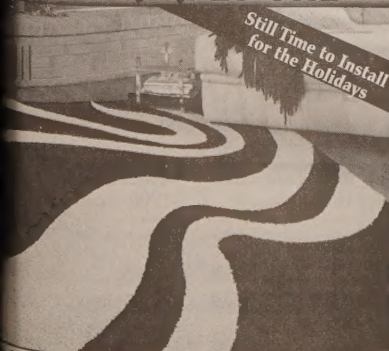
**CA** offers free orientations... day at 1:30 p.m. of its Turn-... Career Center, 2600 Bancroft

## Chimney & Water Services



**Do Repair & Chimney Co.**  
420521 CSIA #4291  
**531-9500**  
honeydorepair.com  
honeydorepair.com

## DICK'S CARPET ONE



**Area Rugs & Runners** up to **50% Off**  
**Remnants Huge Selection** up to **50% Off**

Two Great Locations to Serve You

**Oakland**  
1065 Ashby Ave.  
883-2111  
Mon.-Sat. 9-6  
Sunday 12-5

Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of work-shops it offers to the public. For details call 848-6370.

**Speak Smart!** Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

**Toastmasters Meeting:** Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for more information.

**Joy of Yiddish:** Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

**The Berkeley Communicators Toast-**masters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

**The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group** meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Matly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. For additional information call 204-4503.

**Toastmasters on Campus** meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillgass. Details: 704-1822.

**Public speaking skills and meta-**physics come together at Avatar Meta-physical Toastmasters. On-going meet-ings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillgass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

**"Voices of Healing"** is a group ex-ploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more infor-mation.

**State Health Toastmasters Club** meet every second, third and fourth Thurs-day of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

**Higher Alignment;** 7 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars cre-ating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; 415-461-5337; 520.

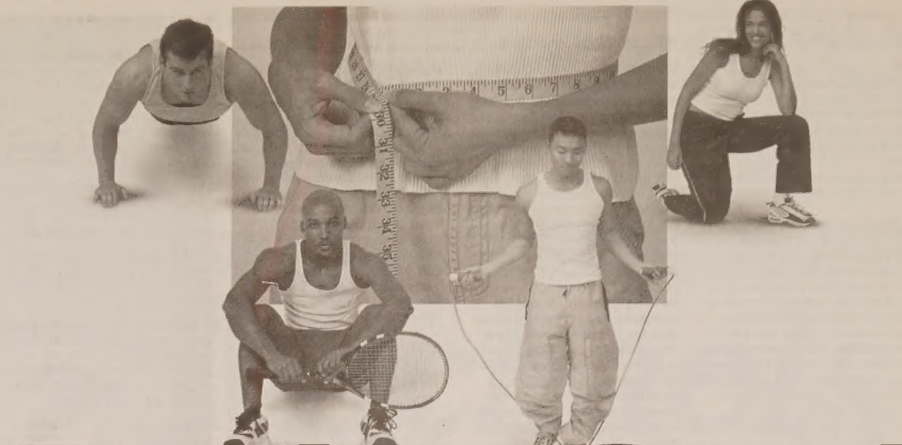
**Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis** Support Group meets the second Tues-day of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, a 12-step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcom-ers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hos-pital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). Details: 273-9292.

**TOPS;** 9:30 a.m., Mondays: Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 239-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

**Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center** and East Bay Neurology sponsor a free monthly stroke support group. No ad-vance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tues-day of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Matly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

**IRONWOOD**  
ENGINEERING COMPANY  
**Civil & Structural Engineering**  
Earthquake Strengthening  
Foundation Repairs  
Retaining Walls  
Drainage  
Chimneys  
Remodels  
Additions  
New Construction  
Licensed Engineers  
Leak Investigations  
Property Purchase Inspections  
**510 / 524-8058**



# Feeling Good

## Stay Healthy and Fit for a Better Life...

**Reverend L. Samsarah Becknell, D.D.**  
Counseling for Individuals, Couples & Families

- Radiant Health Mentorship
- Incest Abuse Issues
- Relationship Concerns
- Right Livelihood (Career)
- Wedding Ceremonies
- Parenting/Spirituality
- Interfaith Ministry & Pastoral Counseling Internship Program

**www.milagros.org**  
milagros@bbs@aol.com  
510-496-3491

**Blue Oak Therapy Center**

Heart-Felt Psychotherapy provided for individuals, couples, families, children, adolescents, and groups by registered MFT interns under licensed supervision.

**3101 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, CA 94705 (510) 649-9818**

**Look Better Naked!**

- Physician Supervision
- Lifestyle Education
- Food Programs
- Appetite Control Medications
- Personal Trainers
- Yoga Classes

*"Let us help you take the steps to a slimmer, healthier you!"*

**(510) 595-9888**  
3317 Elm Street, Suite 102 • Oakland, California 94609

**ADVANCED NON-SURGICAL TREATMENT FOR CHRONIC TENDON PAIN NOW AVAILABLE AT BERKELEY ORTHOPAEDICS!**

Berkeley Orthopaedic Medical Group has orthopaedic surgeons with experience in the newest techniques and technology for treatment of tendon pain for the following areas:

- ☐ elbow (tennis elbow)
- ☐ shoulder (rotator cuff)
- ☐ knee
- ☐ Achilles tendon
- ☐ heel (plantar fasciitis)
- ☐ pelvis
- ☐ patella
- ☐ hamstring
- ☐ hip
- ☐ foot/ankle

Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy (ESWT) is a new FDA-approved technology that offers pain relief by noninvasive therapy with proven effectiveness and no drugs.

To learn more about the newest procedures now available for patients suffering from chronic tendon pain, call (510) 845-3856 or log onto [www.berkeleyortho.com](http://www.berkeleyortho.com)

**Shaw-Anderson DANCE CENTER**

Visit us at [www.shaw-anderson.org](http://www.shaw-anderson.org)  
**TEEN - CHILDREN'S CLASSES**  
Monday, January 6 thru Monday, June 2  
**MODERN • BALLET • JAZZ**

Call for Teens & Children's Class Schedules  
Continuous Adult Classes

44th year 2704 Alcatraz Ave. near College, Berkeley • (510) 654-5921

**Rock Climbing Camps**

**Ages 7 - 17**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**Beginner to Advanced**

*\*\*Bring this ad in for 10% off this or any other kids program*

**IRONWORKS**  
CLIMBING & FITNESS

**800 Potter Street Berkeley, CA 94710 (510) 981-9900**

**Kidz Love to Climb!**

**Checklist To The Successful Exercise Program**

Busy schedule... our program only takes 30 minutes  
Cardiovascular/ aerobic training... burns body fat  
Strength training... permanent results  
Fun... will stick to the program  
Comfortable, caring environment  
Achievable

**Curves®** is the largest fitness and weight loss Franchise in the World!  
Guinness World Records 2002

**Curves®**  
"30 Minute Fitness & Weight Loss Centers"

**Join Now 66% off**  
serve foot 100 members

**2855 Telegraph Ave., Suite 104 Berkeley (1 block from Whole Foods)**  
Call Today! **510-540-9256**

\*Offer based on first visit enrollment. Min. 12 mo. c.d. program



**Next Health & Fitness Section**  
**January 31st**  
deadline  
**January 22nd**  
Call  
**Nancy Taliaferro**  
at  
**339-4036**  
for information

**Anne Becker, D.D.S.**  
*montclair smile design*  
creating smiles with care · come see our "state-of-the-art" office!

**6200 ANTIOCH STREET, SUITE 201 OAKLAND 510.339.0277**



"I wish I had done this years ago."



# NEW YEAR'S EVENTS

**BART** — Dec. 31, 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. BART will allow unlimited rides on BART with special New Year's Eve Flash Passes. The passes will cost \$5 each and should be shown to station agents as they do not fit in the BART gates.  
Available at booths at Bart Stations.  
510-484-6000 or www.bart.gov.

**ASHKENAZ** — New Year's Eve "Balkan Bash," Dec. 31, 8 p.m. This New Year's Eve party with Balkan music and dancing has been going on for over 20 years. This is a last chance to dance the pravo and the chocho on club's old dance floor which will be replaced during January. This year the lineup features "Balkan border music" from Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece plus a Scandinavian violin duet. Performers include Edessa and Anoush. All ages welcome.  
\$18 per person. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com.

**BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH** — New Year's Eve 2002, Dec. 31, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. The evening includes music by the band Planting Seeds, balloons, party favors and a midnight countdown.  
\$15. For ages 21 and up. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-0886.

**CAFE DE LA PAZ** — Berkeley's Nuevo Latino and Tapas restaurant presents its annual New Year's Eve Fiesta featuring a Latin American feast and dance band. Seating for the Fiesta begins at 8:30 p.m., and will go until about 2 a.m. New Year's Day. Cost is \$55 per person (plus tax and service charge). There is a complimentary champagne and sangria toast at midnight. Cafe De La Paz is located at 1600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. The Cafe's expanded facility offers two floors of dining, full bar and an expanded dance floor. Reservations can be made by phone, on-line at cafedelapaz.net or at the Cafe. Credit Card or cash pre-payment is required to confirm a reservation. Space is limited; reservations are encouraged. Live music features virtuoso Mexican musician Jose Roberto y Los Compadres. The dinner buffet will feature a tapas and entrée extravaganza. Details: 510 843 0662 or 510 843 0664.

**CASINO SAN PABLO** — Vietnamese New Year's Eve Dance Concert, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 1:15 a.m. The evening includes dancing to the music of The Tranz Band. The band alternates between rock 'n' roll music and traditional Vietnamese music. In addition there will be superstars from Vietnam, party favors, a light show and a midnight countdown with a balloon drop and a champagne toast. In the Oasis Showroom.  
\$25 to \$35 per person. 13225 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. 510-547-1212.

**CLAREMONT RESORT AND SPA** — "Ring in 2002," Dec. 31. The resort offers a pair of packages for this New Year's Eve.

"Paragon Party," Dec. 31, 7 p.m. This festive package offers a five-course prix fixe dinner, music by a jazz trio, party favors and a midnight countdown and champagne toast. Reservations suggested. \$79 per person.

"Jordan's Party," Dec. 31. The evening includes cocktails, a New Year's Eve Gala five-course prix fixe dinner served from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., piano music by George Johnson during dinner, followed by dancing to live music, party favors, a midnight countdown, balloon drop and champagne toast with hors d'oeuvres. \$95 per person. 41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley. 510-843-

3000, ext. 737.  
**FREIGHT AND SALVAGE** — New Year's Eve Bluegrass Bash, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. With music by High Country plus special guests Dix Bruce and Jim Nunally. The evening features great music plus the traditional assortment of noisemakers, balloons, funny hats and a midnight countdown.  
\$19.50 to \$20.50 per person. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-548-1761 or www.freightandsalvage.org.

**HORNBLOWER YACHTS BERKELEY CRUISE** — New Year's Eve Cruise, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cruise into the new year aboard the Empress Hornblower. The evening includes an open bar, DJ dancing, buffet dinner and a deck-side view of the fireworks in San Francisco Bay. Board at 8:00 p.m. Reservations required.  
\$169 to \$199 per person. Berkeley Radisson Dock, foot of University Avenue, Berkeley. 415-788-8866 or www.hornblower.com.

**JORDAN'S (CLAREMONT RESORT)** — New Year's Eve 2002. The restaurant features seating 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. with a prix fixe five-course menu, party favors and live music.  
\$95. 41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley. 510-843-3000, ext. 737.

**LA PENNA CULTURAL CENTER** — "Feliz Año Nuevo," Dec. 31, 9:30 p.m. With Tito Reynoso's Ritmo y Armonia. There will be a special New Year's Eve menu in the cafe.  
\$20 to \$22 per person. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568.

**LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE FAMILY HOLIDAY PROGRAMS** — "The Wizard School of Magic and Science," Dec. 29, 1 p.m. Benny and Bebe, a team of boisterous clowns, present an interactive magic show with a comic show.

Children's Singer Joanie Bartels, Dec. 30, 1 p.m. Kick up your heels with upbeat, world-beat dance tunes.  
New Year's Eve Day Party, Dec. 31, noon to 2 p.m. A special daytime party for youngsters featuring lots of hands-on activities.

\$7 general; \$5 seniors, students, disabled and youths age 7 to 18; \$3 children age 3 to 6; free children under age 3. Centennial Drive, University of California, Berkeley. 510-642-5132 or www.lawrencehallofscience.org.

**OAKLAND ARENA** — The Other Ones, Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m. featuring Mickey Hart, Bill Kreutzmann, Phil Lesh, Bob Weir, Rob Barraco, Jeff Chimenti and Jimmy Herring. With Medeski Martin and Wood and Hot Tuna Acoustic.  
\$75 per person. Hegenberger Road and Interstate 880, Oakland. 925-762-2277, 510-762-2277, 415-478-2277, 408-998-2277, 650-478-2277, 916-766-2277, 707-546-2277 or tickets.com.

**PARAMOUNT THEATRE** — The 13th Annual New Year's Eve Black Comedy Explosion, Dec. 31, 11 p.m. Featuring Tommy Davidson, Sheryl Underwood and Alex Thomas with Host Guy Torry.  
\$42.50 and \$55.50. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-465-6400 or www.paramounttheatre.com.

**SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** — New Year's Eve Party, Benjamin Simon conducting, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. Guest artists: Miriam Abramowitz, soprano; Sharon Bogas, cello; Roya Bogas, piano. A program of works by Haydn, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Mozart, Pergolesi and Porter.  
\$20. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. www.sfcchamberorchestra.org.

**STARRY PLOUGH RESTAURANT AND PUB** — New Year's Eve 2002, Dec. 31, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. The evening includes music by Magic City Chamber of Commerce and George Pedersen and The Red Varmints, party hats and favors, a midnight

countdown with a champagne toast to 2003.

\$7 per person. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-0188.

**STORK CLUB** — New Year's Eve 2002 At The Stork Club, Dec. 31, 9:30 p.m. Featuring the bands The Lewd, Eddie Haskell, Drink Tickets and The Tramps. The evening includes party favors, dancing, a midnight countdown and champagne toast.  
\$10 per person. 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-6174.

**TILDEN REGIONAL PARK** — "New Year's Eve Tea Tasting," Dec. 31, 1 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Learn the lore and natural history of tea, thrill to the story of "The Great Tea Race" and sample a variety of teas and traditional refreshments. Bring your favorite cup and saucer. For ages 8 and above. Reservations required. \$7 to \$9. 510-636-1684.

"The 21st Annual New Year's Eve Hike," Dec. 31, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Learn New Year's customs and traditions from around the world on this yearly walk. Dress warmly. Okay to bring a flashlight. Free.

Take Canon Drive off Grizzly Peak Blvd., Berkeley. 510-525-2233.

**USS HORNET HISTORIC AIRCRAFT CARRIER MUSEUM** — "New Year's Eve," Dec. 31, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. The evening includes dinner and dancing into the New Year to the swing music of the Cab Calloway Orchestra on three dance floors on the heated and enclosed hangar deck of the ship. Festivities include hats and party favors, a midnight countdown and a champagne toast. Premium reserved seating with dinner will also be available. Formal attire suggested and period costumes welcome. Proceeds from the event go to the restoration and preservation of the USS Hornet, a national Historic Landmark.

New Year's Eve Dinner Package, 8 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.: The evening includes cocktails, a gourmet buffet dinner, wine, dessert and coffee plus dancing, party favors, a midnight countdown and a midnight champagne toast. Reservations required for dinner. \$115 to \$165 per person includes reserved seating New Year's Eve Celebration, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.: The evening includes dancing, a cash bar, hors d'oeuvres and dessert concession. \$75 to \$125. Pier 3 (enter at Atlantic Avenue), Alameda Point, Alameda. 510-521-8448 ext. 225 or 510-762-2277 or www.uss-hornet.org.  
**YOSHIS** — New Year's Eve Fiesta, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. One seating includes two long sets, the first a solo performance by Taj Mahal, the second with The Taj Mahal Trio, plus a champagne toast and a midnight countdown.  
\$100 per person. Jack London Square, 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. 510-238-9200 or www.yoshis.com.

DREXEL HERITAGE

HERITAGE HOUSE GALLERIES

Two convenient locations to serve you... Concord/Pleasanton

Open New Year's Day 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S  
FLOOR SAMPLE & ACCESSORIES  
SALE  
&  
CLEARANCE

Many of our floor samples will be greatly reduced in price... hurry in for the best selections & tremendous values during our Floor Sample & Accessories Sale & Clearance

Save up to 50% on selected Floor Samples... Happy New Year!

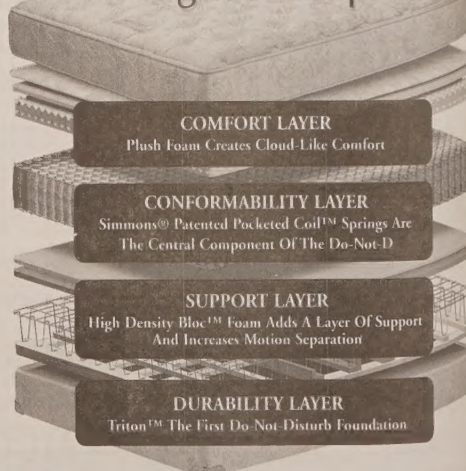


Beautyrest

Better Sleep For The Two Of You



Redesigned from the ground up for a better night's sleep



Introducing a mattress you never have to flip.

Partner movement can affect your ability to sleep through the night. The new Beautyrest has 71% better motion separation than the already superior Beautyrest.

Save an EXTRA 20%

on our entire collection of Beautyrest mattresses

All prices shown below reflect the 20% discount

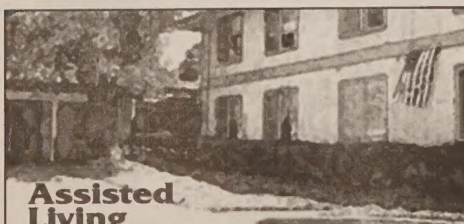
MEDALIST	MONARCH	MEREDITH
\$340 <del>\$425</del> Twin, ea. pc. Full, ea. pc. .... <del>\$425</del> \$380 Queen ea. pc. .... <del>\$460</del> \$400 Olympic Queen set <del>\$460</del> \$1039 King set <del>\$460</del> \$1119	\$640 <del>\$800</del> Twin, ea. pc. Full, ea. pc. .... <del>\$800</del> \$740 Queen ea. pc. .... <del>\$860</del> \$760 Olympic Queen set <del>\$860</del> \$1759 King set <del>\$860</del> \$1839	\$1000 <del>\$1250</del> Full, ea. pc. Queen ea. pc. .... <del>\$1250</del> \$1100 Olympic Queen set <del>\$1250</del> \$2319 King set <del>\$1250</del> \$2399
SHELBY	DEL MAR	FREE bed frame with every Beautyrest mattress purchase
\$1080 <del>\$1350</del> Full, ea. pc. Queen ea. pc. .... <del>\$1350</del> \$1120 Olympic Queen set <del>\$1350</del> \$2479 King set <del>\$1350</del> \$2559	\$1320 <del>\$1650</del> Full, ea. pc. Queen ea. pc. .... <del>\$1650</del> \$1360 Olympic Queen set <del>\$1650</del> \$2959 King set <del>\$1650</del> \$3039	FREE delivery

CONCORD: 1150 CONCORD AVENUE (925) 671-7374

PLEASANTON: 4270 ROSEWOOD DRIVE (925) 847-7374

Shop Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday, 10am - 6pm Thursday 10am - 8pm • Sunday 11am - 5pm  
Limited to stock on hand. All floor sample merchandise sold "as is".

Please recycle this newspaper



Assisted Living

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED  
LOW RATES...EXCELLENT CARE  
CENTRAL TO ORINDA, LAFAYETTE & BERKELEY  
NOT JUST A HOME...BUT A COMMUNITY

Live Oak Living Center  
2150 PYRAMID DRIVE  
EL SOBRANTE, CA  
(510) 222-1242  
Skilled Care & Assisted Living on One Campus  
DSS Lic# 071440149



LASIK  
FOR  
\$499  
REG. PRICE \$899

\*PER EYE BELOW 20/20 NEAR/SIGHTEDNESS & 40 ASTIGMATISM - FEE APPLIES TO DR. ELLIS ASSOCIATE. BLUTERAL PROCEDURE REGULAR \$899. MUST PRESENT AD. LIMITED TIME OFFER. FINANCING AVAILABLE.

Value your vision and value your dollar! The Ellis Eye and Laser Medical Center provides state-of-the-art laser technology and extensive vision correction experience that you can trust! Our physicians have performed over 14,000 LASIK procedures helping thousands to reduce or eliminate their dependency on glasses and contacts.

ELLIS EYE & LASER MEDICAL CENTER Call 1-800-758-6733 FOR YOUR FREE EVALUATION



Today's Real Estate in the East Bay by Marc Guay

## INTRODUCING MY NEW REAL ESTATE COLUMN

This is the first in an ongoing series of real estate articles designed to provide useful information to those of you who have an interest in real estate.

Over the years I have found that an educated homeowner finds it easier to make the many decisions that arise during a real estate transaction. It is my hope that these articles will result in you being a more informed homeowner.

Each week I will consider another aspect of the residential real estate market. I will focus on topics such as: what paperwork is involved in a sale; how to prepare your home for the marketplace; choosing the right home for your needs; and how to prepare for taking out a home loan.

In these articles, I will help clarify the complex process that is set in motion once you have decided to buy or sell a home or investment property.

If these columns raise any questions for you or if you would like some professional advice, please feel free to call me. Because professional services are personalized to your needs, I can simplify the often complex process of buying and/or selling property. Please call Marc at 280-2103 and visit his web site at www.marcguay.com

Marc Guay is a Realtor® with Red Oak Realty in Berkeley.



# Solve

PAGE A1

ire. 2. Retire. 3. Retire. That won't happen. So I'll concentrate on improving communication between Council and our citizens, working with the Chamber of Commerce to create a healthy community, promoting cultural and cultural events, and my golf handicap."

Gravy, clown/camp director. My resolution is to find more funds for Camp because the ice money is drying up now and Jerry has discontinued them. I really can't do it. It was the most expensive and most expensive they had, not to mention politically correct. But they make the all the work. They make me nostalgic for the future."

Anderson, mayor of Contra Costa County. "My resolution for 2003 is to vigorously embrace the opportunity that might be to my community."

John Gioia, Contra Costa County supervisor. "I promise to eat junk food and schedule to exercise at least three times a week. I'm not really over it, but my cholesterol is too high and I need to take better care of myself."

"Happy Tooth" (aka dentist Thomas Arnold, entertains local school children by dressing in a giant tooth costume and singing rap about proper dental care): "My year 2003/Make your happy as can be/So see dentist regularly!"

Fine, executive director of Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. "My goal is to find new homes for as many adoptable animals as possible. To be happy with what I can't do."

Patricia Player, West Contra Costa Unified School District president. "I have two resolutions. First, To work for the two grandsons, and second, I'm going to do what I can to make up the shortfall we're facing. I want to lay off teachers, the way we have."

Berring, the new dean at Berkeley's Boalt Hall law school. "My fondest hope is that we can have a New Year's Day that the last six months have been a horrible dream."

As actually beat the American League that the Democrats won elections, and that I'm not seriously, though, my

resolution for next year is to try to be a good dean."

Fred Davis Jackson, Richmond playwright/poet/novelist: "I have two goals. First, I have one song left to do on my new CD, so I plan to complete that. And second, I'm going to publish my new novel, 'An Evolution In Black And White,' by April. I don't know whether it'll be self-published or not, but one way or another it's going to come out."

Linda Rosen, President emerita of the Berkeley Historical Society: "I resolve to promote peace — one person at a time."

Fred Fogg, 81-year-old retired El Cerrito teacher and tireless volunteer for myriad good causes, including Habitat for Humanity, Christmas in April, and the Souper Center in Richmond: "My goal is to maintain my health so I can keep on doing what I'm doing."

Sarah Cahill, Berkeley pianist/radio show host: "I resolve to read poetry every day, to help develop my daughter Miranda's sense of social justice (and my own, as well), and to eat actual meals — like breakfast, lunch and dinner — instead of whatever little piece of bagel or bit of apple Miranda has left over after she's gone to school."

Jim Stickney, pastor of St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Albany: "I resolve not to do anything because of imaginary complaints of fault-finders. I'm fed up with my tendency to worry about criticism before it ever occurs."

Miftah Leath, feminist activist, Berkeley: "I was raised to intuit other people's needs and to be the first one on my block to rush in and take care of them. That can wear a girl out after a while! So for 2003, I want to be better at setting clear limits. I know she's not dead yet, but I want to get really good at channeling Nancy Reagan so I can just say no."

Jacqueline Lynaugh, the Blue Fairy at Children's Fairyland: "I've already started fulfilling my New Year's resolution. To show my support for the U.N. and other efforts to keep peace, I'm going to buy all my cards and gifts at the United Nations Association Gift Shop behind the University Avenue Andronico's in Berkeley."

Lewis Mahlmann, master puppeteer at Children's Fairyland: "My goal for 2003 is to work less. I'm handing over the reins to Randall Metz. Don't get me wrong; I'll never quit. I still

love making puppets and building sets and writing scripts. But at age 75, running the day-to-day operations is a little much. So I'm going to start pulling away slowly."

Bob Kelso, owner of Toot Sweets in North Berkeley: "I plan to laugh more next year, because this may yet prove to be an episode of Cosmic Candid Camera."

Father John Maxwell, St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in El Cerrito: "We have a sister parish in Haiti — St. Elizabeth's parish in Fond-Tortue. They're very poor, and the way they're being oppressed is frightful. So I definitely plan to do more outreach to our brothers and sisters in Haiti next year."

Jane Bartke, former El Cerrito mayor and custodian of the Sundar Shadi Christmas sculptures: "Mr. Shadi wasn't a Christian, but he made Christmas sculptures because he knew that would be the best way to reach out to his neighbors. I'd like to follow his example and promote

peace in a way others can understand."

Jim Lyon, Vietnam veteran/homeless person, Richmond: "My goal in 2003 is to survive."

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or msnapp@cctimes.com.

John Gioia

Closed Christmas Day Thurs. 8AM-9PM Fri.-Sat. 9AM-9PM Except where prohibited by law.

# Michaels

## THE ARTS AND CRAFTS STORE®

### After Christmas

# CLEARANCE

# 50-70% OFF

Our Original Ticketed Price

## ON THOUSANDS OF CHRISTMAS ITEMS

# 50% OFF

- ALL Christmas Trees & Wreaths
- ALL Christmas Garlands & Swags
- ALL Christmas Floral & Fruit
- ALL Christmas Decor
- ALL Christmas Lighting
- ALL Lemax® Village Collection
- ALL Christmas Ornaments
- ALL Christmas Ribbon & Bows
- ALL Christmas Wrapping Paper
- ALL Christmas Party Supplies
- ALL Christmas Baskets
- ALL Christmas Stitchery
- ALL Christmas Candles
- ALL Christmas Boxed Cards

# 70% OFF

- ALL Holiday Elegance "Silk" Floral Stems
- ALL Decorative Christmas Picks
- ALL Christmas Stencils
- ALL Christmas Yard Art
- ALL Christmas Ready-To-Finish Wood
- ALL Christmas Flags
- ALL Christmas Banners

## HURRY, WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!

NEWSPAPERS  
REAL ESTATE  
HOME

Real Estate & Home

Weekly Home Sales: Millions of dollars in real estate are sold every week!

Now is the time to get in on the action for the lowest price!

Victorian Architecture at its finest

Call to subscribe: 1-800-598-4637

**Stone Valley Inc.**

1616 Doolittle Dr. San Leandro CA 94577  
Tel: (510) 618-1558 Fax: (510) 618-1568  
Website: www.stonevalleyusa.com  
E-mail: Sales@stonevalleyusa.com

20" Backsplash	<del>\$199.00</del>	\$99.00
25" X 1-1/2" Bullnose Edge	<del>\$259.00</del>	\$159.00
36" X 1-1/2" Bullnose Edge	<del>\$369.00</del>	\$269.00

Join us for a Cruise Event with Royal Caribbean

Meet Tracey Brown from Royal Caribbean & Celebrity Cruise Line.

Learn about the new sailings from San Francisco to Mexico and information on cruising to Alaska, Europe, Panama Canal & the Caribbean!

**AAA Travel Richmond**

3060 Hilltop Mall Road

Wednesday, January 8

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Royal Caribbean International

Celebrity Cruises

X a true departure

AAA Travel

Bookings • Refreshments

January 7th, (510) 223-8080 ext. 287

Michaels Store Coupon

# 50% OFF

Your Custom Frame Moulding

Coupon applies to frame moulding only.

## Three Days Only!

Valid on Custom Framing Order Placed  
Thursday, Dec. 26 Through Saturday, Dec. 28, 2002

We're the World's Largest Custom Framer!

May not be combined with any other coupon, sale or discount in effect. May not be used on purchases made through Michaels.com. Valid at Michaels stores only. No reproductions accepted.

Michaels Store Coupon

# 40% OFF

Any One Regular Priced Item

## Three Days Only!

Coupon Valid Dec. 26 - Dec. 28, 2002

4 00100 07510 4

One coupon per customer per day. Coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase. May not be used for any other purchases or for any currently advertised. Discount is only printed here. Limited to stock on hand. Excludes all special order custom floral arrangements and all special order custom frames and materials. May not be used to purchase shipping cards, gift certificates or Michaels Credit magazine. May not be used on purchases made through Michaels.com. Valid at Michaels stores only. No reproductions accepted.

Percent Off Discounts Are Off Original Ticketed Price.

Ad prices and ad coupons are not valid on purchases made on michaels.com. All credit cards may not be accepted at all stores. Selection and regular prices may vary. Typographic, photographic and printing errors are subject to correction at the store level. Due to the seasonal nature of our imported products, quantities may be limited and there may be no rain checks issued. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Offer good only in the U.S.A.

Prices Good Dec. 26 - Dec. 28, 2002

For nearest location or job opportunities call TOLL FREE 1-800-MICHAELS (1-800-642-4235)

©2002, Michaels Stores, Inc.



## Review

FROM PAGE A1

■ Albany city officials express concern about money being taken away from the city as a result of the state's budget crisis. City officials worry that \$600,000, or 6 percent of the city's budget, could be given back to the state.

■ The El Cerrito City Council approves a motel expansion near the corner of San Pablo Avenue and Cutting Boulevard, overturning an earlier decision by the planning commission. The planning commission, in a split decision, says the consequences of the expansion are not well researched. The council disagrees, believing the motel would be an economic stimulus to the area.

■ The El Cerrito City Council chooses three sites as possible locations for a new civic center. The locations include: the current City Hall site at San Pablo and Manila avenues, the El Cerrito Lumber Yard site at San Pablo Avenue and Schmidt Lane and the former Albertsons site at San Pablo Avenue and Portola Drive.

■ Community workshops begin to discuss what kind of development people want to see at the Del Norte BART station. Charlie Oewel, the developer, plans to build housing, commercial and retail uses on two parking lots and adjacent property there.

■ The owners of the Parkway Theater in Oakland, Kyle and Catherine Fischer, bow out of plans to team up with the city to restore and operate the Cerrito Theater, saying it's too risky an investment.

■ Lori Trevino is hired as El Cerrito's new economic development/redevelopment manager. Her job is to put together a five-year plan that would redevelop much of San Pablo Avenue.

### March

■ The Albany High School music department holds its annual Groove Fest, a concert featuring the school's jazz, rock and 1960s and 1970s rhythm-and-blues ensembles, plus the jazz band from Albany Middle School and professional jazz musician Frank Martin and his band. The concert is part of an effort to raise \$250,000 to fund the salaries and benefits for the district's three music teachers.

■ The Kensington Fire District continues installing fire hydrants and widening thousands of feet of underground pipes in an effort to offer more protection against homes on the hillsides overlooking Tilden Regional Park. The \$1 million project is expected to be completed by 2004.

■ The El Cerrito City Council, acting as the city's Redevelopment Agency, votes in favor of a short-term lease for the Cerrito Theater. The three-month, \$30,000 lease leads to the redevelopment agency purchasing the building and to renewed talks with the Parkway Theater owners.

■ The Albany Unified School District begins searching for a new superintendent to replace Gary Mills, who announced plans to resign April 1. The school board ultimately chooses William Wong, the former superintendent of the Pittsburg Unified School District.

■ The Contra Costa Civic Theatre in El Cerrito continues a \$650,000 remodeling project. The project is intended to extend the life of the building, at 951 Pomona Ave., for 50 years.

■ In Albany, the nonprofit organization SchoolCARE (Citizens of Albany to Rescue Education) begins a fund-raising effort to fill in gaps in the Albany Unified

School District Budget. The school district is in the midst of slicing \$1.5 million from its \$22 million budget. The intent of the fund-raising effort is to increase the number of people and corporations who donated money to the cause.

■ The El Cerrito City Council and residents criticize a plan to create a mixed-use development on two parking lots at the Del Norte BART station. Several residents object to the number of high-density housing units proposed.

■ Interns at the Albany Chamber of Commerce begin organizing an April 27 video game tournament.

■ Georgia Brumbaugh, a founder of the El Cerrito Garden Club nearly 50 years ago, dies March 17 in Davis.

### April

■ Residents clean up around El Cerrito on April 20, Earth Day.

■ The El Cerrito City Council considers changing the city's sign ordinance for AC Transit to build bus shelters which would contain advertisements.

■ "O, Music Where Art Thou," a benefit concert featuring the David Grisman Bluegrass Experience, Laurie Lewis and Nina Gerber and the Bluegrass Intentions is held April 26. The event is a fund-raiser for the Albany Unified School District music departments.

■ The El Cerrito City Council gives the go-ahead to install six stop signs around the city, as well as one red curb — a 15-foot zone where people are forbidden to park — at Baron Street and Fairmount Avenue.

### May

■ Relay for Life, a day-long fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society, is held at the El Cerrito High School track. The event, which has residents walking around the track for 24 hours, raises \$35,000.

■ The Albany City Council votes to prohibit off-leash dogs and permanent outdoor art at the Albany Bulb and building ball fields on the plateau, along the city's waterfront. The recommendation is handed to the States Park Commission, which finalized the decision at a December meeting.

■ Albany police officer John Sandoval and El Cerrito detective Robert De La Campa receive officer of the year awards from the Albany-El Cerrito Exchange Club.

■ Former Albany Police Chief James Simmons dies of a heart attack May 8 in San Luis Obispo County at the age of 68.

■ Albany Police Chief Larry Murdo takes himself out of the running for his job as the city begins a search for the city's first appointed chief, after voters in 2001 approved a change in the way the police chief was chosen; until then the chief was elected.

### June

■ El Cerrito High School math teacher Jolanta Walukiewicz is one of two teachers of the year in the West County Unified School District. The other is Olanrewaju Ajayi, a teacher at the transition learning center in San Pablo.

■ The Albany City Council approves an \$18 million two-year budget that lacks any non-essentials. The tight budget is the result of worries that money could be taken away by the state.

■ Real estate developer Jim Busby files a lawsuit against El Cerrito in response to the City Council denying him an extension that would allow him to build 14 homes near Potrero Avenue and Madera Circle.

■ Firefighters and the city negotiate over salaries. Firefighters

say they should receive salaries that meet the average of departments along the Interstate 80 corridor. The city says it doesn't have money to increase salaries. In November, voters approve an increase in the city's paramedic tax that provides for the pay raise.

■ The City Council approves a list of infrastructure improvement projects to be completed in the subsequent fiscal year. Meanwhile, it considers whether to place a bond measure or parcel tax on the November ballot to help pay for more than \$30 million worth of unfunded infrastructure improvements. The council eventually does place a bond measure on the ballot and residents pass it by more than the required two-thirds majority.

■ Grocery store Trader Joe's agrees to move into El Cerrito Plaza by spring 2003.

■ The Albany City Council authorizes an agreement with Caltrans that says the state agency will complete the initial work in a plan to convert land next to Interstate 80 into a park. The weed-strewn 4.5-acre parcel sits between Pierce Street and Washington and Cleveland avenues.

■ "Cherish," a movie about a woman under house arrest, written and directed by Albany resident Finn Taylor, is released in theaters June 7.

■ The El Cerrito City Council agrees to look for a developer to build a 400-space parking garage at the El Cerrito Plaza BART station. The decision comes 14 years after Measure C, a county sales tax measure, was passed in part to fund the project.

■ El Cerrito approves a city budget that creates five new city staff positions, three of which are in the police department. City officials say the city has a budget surplus and is in good financial shape because of careful spending and increased sales and property taxes.

■ Bookstore Barnes & Noble opens at El Cerrito Plaza.

■ Albany High School holds its year-end student art show featuring 90 large paintings done by teacher Ed Hill's advanced art students.

### July

■ The Albany City Council approves a \$930,000 plan to slow traffic on Marin Avenue to make the street safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. The city plans to fund the implementation of the plan through grants or a bond measure.

■ Former Albany Councilman Mario DiPrisco announces he will not seek reelection on the council. DiPrisco ran in a special election in November 2000 for a council seat that opened when former Councilman Ed McManus moved out of town.

■ A new \$130,000 playground for younger children opens at Cerrito Vista Park. Paid for primarily with grants, the new "tot lot" features safer play equipment and is accessible to children with disabilities.

■ Photographs by Jim Hair are displayed at the Albany Community Center, in an exhibit entitled "Before and After." The photos document events and people during the 1970s and the 1990s.

■ The El Cerrito City Council approves a \$5 increase for parking tickets, the second increase in as many years. It brings the cost for most parking violations to between \$35 and \$48.

■ The Albany City Council agrees to place three measures on the November ballot: a bond measure that would tax property owners for infrastructure improvements and increases in the city's property-transfer and paramedic taxes. Voters pass all three

in the Nov. 5 election.

■ The computer lab at the El Cerrito "Open House" Senior Center is upgraded due to efforts by two nonprofit organizations and resident Anita Goldstein.

■ The El Cerrito City Council is split over the city's failure to collect business license taxes from some businesses. Councilwoman Gina Brusatori and Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Perka vote in favor of sending the issue to the grand jury for an investigation, while Mayor Janet Abelson, Councilman Mark Friedman and Councilwoman Letitia Moore refuse to do so. Months later, the council agrees to a three-month amnesty program for businesses that have failed to pay the taxes.

### August

■ A plan by PG&E to move five utility poles on the south side of El Cerrito Plaza delays an effort to realign and restore the Cerrito Creek there for one year.

■ Albany files a lawsuit against the three parties that had a part in designing and constructing the city's community center, in an effort to recoup repair costs for the 9-year-old building. Sections of the building's walls begin falling apart in April due to water damage.

■ The El Cerrito City Council considers creating an arts commission to advise the City Council on how to promote arts and culture in the city. Councilwoman Gina Brusatori and Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Perka vote against the idea but are outvoted, 3-2.

■ El Cerrito holds a golf tournament at Mira Vista Country Club and raises \$13,000 for the David Hunter Memorial Fund.

■ Dick McSheehy, the oldest living former Albany firefighter, dies Aug. 16 in Carmichael. He was 93.

### September

■ Vince Rhea begins the school year as the new principal of El Cerrito High School. Rhea is the school's former dean of students and vice principal. He was chosen following a search undertaken by the West Contra Costa Unified School District over the summer.

■ Ceremonies commemorating the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks are held at El Cerrito and Albany fire stations.

■ Two remaining sections of the El Cerrito Mill and Lumber building at San Pablo Avenue and Schmidt Drive are moved east to the corner of San Pablo and Orchard avenues on giant dollies in the middle of the night. A six-building apartment complex is set to be built at the former Mill and Lumber site.

■ The 28th annual Solano Stroll is held and draws thousands of people and entertainers.

■ Grace Baking, the popular cafe and bakery at the corner of Solano and Kains avenues in Albany, closes its door. A few days later, the Noe Valley Bakery opens in its place.

■ Four tennis courts are given a facelift and brought back into service at Memorial Park. In 1997, the courts were used to hold portable classrooms while Albany High School was being rebuilt.

■ The El Cerrito Democratic

Club endorses Sandi Potter for the El Cerrito City Council, after a candidate forum in which Potter differs with Kathie Perka on a number of issues. Potter ultimately unseats incumbent Perka in the Nov. 5 election.

■ Albany Police Lt. Greg Bone is selected as the city's new police chief. Bone is the first appointed chief in the city.

### October

■ A groundbreaking is held for the construction of 48 high-tech bike lockers at the El Cerrito Plaza BART station. The lockers allow anyone to use them whenever they're empty. Older lockers are rented out six months at a time.

■ The El Cerrito Democratic Club celebrates its 50th anniversary.

■ A request to cremate nearly twice as many bodies per year at the Sunset View Cemetery raises concerns from residents about the increased cancer risk. Though the cancer risk is considered minute by the Air Quality Management District, the county allocates more time for residents to comment and ask questions about the issue.

■ The Yan Can restaurant celebrates its opening at El Cerrito Plaza with a fund-raiser that collects \$4,200 for El Cerrito High School.

■ Farid Javandel, Allan Maris and Robert Good answer questions from residents during an Albany election forum. Incumbent Maris and Good, a former city councilman, are elected back to the council.

■ The El Cerrito City Council votes in favor of giving businesses who haven't paid their business license taxes three months to pay up with no fines levied. The amnesty program, which is expected to begin in January, is good for the last three years' worth of unpaid taxes.

■ An election mailer comparing El Cerrito City Council candidate Kathie Perka to candidate-for-governor Bill Simon riles Perka supporters.

### November

■ Two groups lobby to save the Gill Tract — a plot of agricultural land in Albany — from being transformed into baseball fields. Urban Roots and the Friends of the Gill Tract create an alternative design plan that would keep the land intact, but it remains to be seen what will come of it.

■ Kensington feminist bookstore Boadecia's Books holds two fund-raising events featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker and Dorothy Allison, the author of "Bastard Out of Carolina."

■ The Albany community center and library remain open while undergoing \$700,000 in repairs.

■ Sandi Potter and incumbent Janet Abelson are elected to the El Cerrito City Council.

■ Michael Barnes and Miriam Walden are elected to the Albany School Board. They join David Farrell in filling three open board seats.

■ Four Albany schools exceed state standards on the Academic Performance Index (API). Each school showed improvement, ex-

cept for Albany High School, which dropped a few points because too few students took the test.

■ The El Cerrito City Council approves an agreement for a \$350,000 grant from the city to buy and remove a piece of property owned by the Ohlone Cultural Center.

■ Albany assistant administrator Anna Rios resigns the city after several years of contributions.

### December

■ Ruth Call, who served as time mayor Red Call's 77.

■ Albany City Council dog Dario Meneses dies.

■ The third annual Albany Greenway walk.

■ The El Cerrito City Council member Albany School Board are sworn into office.

■ Castro Elementary in El Cerrito holds a ceremony in memory of Judith Lohmeyer, a grade teacher who died in a plane crash in August.

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

■ Albany City Council

## NOT SURE WHAT TO COOK THIS WEEKEND?

Let Hill Newspapers' Shopping Plus cook something up for you.

Shopping Plus  
Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

Tote cuisine: beyond the bologna sandwich

Call to subscribe: 1-800-598-4637

25% OFF  
ALL ACCESSORIES  
SALE ENDS  
DEC. 31<sup>ST</sup>

- Items For Your Holiday Entertaining
- Great Host & Hostess Gifts
- Free Gift Wrapping
- Free Local Delivery

### PILLOWPARKPLAZA

High End Furniture at a Lower End Price!  
1419 Park Street • Alameda • 510-521-6227  
• www.PillowPark.com  
Mon., Tues., Fri. 10-8, closed Wed., Thurs. 10-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5  
Free local delivery & take-away  
• Family owned for over 30 years





# Real Estate & Home

Friday supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, December 27, 2002

Section B

## Face-to-face mishaps

ould buyers and  
s meet?

ANIAN NEWS FEATURES

estate agents almost al-  
wise sellers to leave when  
is shown to prospective  
buyers are also advised to  
their excitement about the  
they do happen to run into  
ers.

are real estate agents so  
about chance meetings be-  
buyers and sellers? Some  
worry that the buyers could  
their negotiating position  
seller becomes aware of the  
enthusiasm for the property.  
cases, this might be so, but  
encounter could just as eas-  
the opposite effect.

couple returned to see a  
they were considering at  
they could appreciate the  
this view. The seller was  
The buyers and sellers en-  
in a friendly conversation,  
with the seller with a positive  
reaction of the buyers.

The seller subsequently received  
offers. The couple he met at  
property offered the lowest price

of the three. The seller wanted these  
buyers to have the house if they  
were willing and able to pay the  
highest price he was offered.

So rather than accept the high-  
est offer, he issued a counteroffer  
to the buyers who'd made the low-  
est offer. They accepted. If he had  
not had the personal connection to  
these buyers, they wouldn't have  
received preferential treatment.

**HOUSE HUNTING TIP:** There  
are many advantages to having  
buyers and sellers meet, but there  
are several issues to be aware of.  
Buying and selling a personal resi-  
dence is unlike any other business  
transaction. There is an emotional  
component that can have an effect  
on the outcome of the transaction.  
If you were to meet the seller at the  
property and have an unpleasant  
encounter, this could hinder your  
chances of a smooth negotiation.

Sellers who list their homes for  
sale with a real estate agent often  
do so because they don't want to  
interact directly with the buyers.  
They want to put the marketing and  
negotiations in the hands of trained  
professionals. A buyer should re-  
spect a seller's wishes if he does



**DIAN HYMER**  
house hunting

not want to meet with you until you  
have completed your negotiations.  
This includes any negotiations that  
might be required to resolve in-  
spection-related issues.

After that, it's usually beneficial  
for the buyers to meet with the sell-  
ers for the purpose of learning more  
about the property. If the seller has  
lived in the property for some time,  
he has had time to decipher idio-  
syncrasies that could take you  
months or longer to figure out.

Recently, a buyer learned that if  
she lowered a shade in the kitchen  
during warm weather, she could  
avoid walking into an unbearably  
hot house when she returned at the  
end of the day.

Make a list of questions you  
have before your meet with the  
seller. If you're buying a home with  
a garden, you might appreciate  
knowing what the seller recom-  
mends about ideal times to prune,  
or which plants will require more or  
less water when the season  
changes.

Ask the sellers if they have any  
service providers — like gardeners  
or a handyman — that they would  
recommend. Write down their names  
and phone numbers. Contact these  
people as soon as possible if you  
want them to continue working for  
you. It could take you months to es-  
tablish relationships with new service  
providers using a hit-and-miss, trial-  
by-Yellow-Pages approach.

**THE CLOSING:** If you do meet  
with the sellers, it's usually best to  
keep your redecorating and re-  
modeling plans to yourself. The sell-  
ers may have a strong attachment  
to their own taste in such matters.  
Try to culminate your transaction  
on good terms.

Dian Hymer can be reached at  
510-339-4777 or by e-mail at  
Dian@Dianhymer.com.



MARK ENGLUND/HOMESTORE PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS

## What's for supper?

IF YOU'RE AN ORGANIZER AND A PLANNER, your new home should have a menu desk in the kitchen, so you can jot down items on a grocery list as you think of them. You can even keep a meal calendar here, and organize your coupons in the same place. A computer can come in very handy also, especially if you wish to take advantage of a grocery delivery service. That way, once a week, you can order groceries online and simply wait for front-door delivery. A menu desk is a staple of many newly designed homes. It's certainly a useful space, one that will keep your kitchen better organized. For more ideas, visit [www.homeplans.com](http://www.homeplans.com).

## California median home price rises 21.5%

wide sales also  
increase compared  
December 2001

THE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

median price of existing  
in California in November in-  
creased 21.5 percent and sales rose  
15 percent compared to the same  
month a year ago, according to the  
National Association of Realtors.  
The median price of a home in  
California continued to post dra-  
matic gains last month, and has in-  
creased by double digits every  
month for the past 12 months," said

C.A.R. President Toby Bradley.  
"While this trend is due in part to  
favorable interest rates, it also re-  
flects that the supply of homes for  
sale in California continues to fall  
short of meeting the state's long-  
term housing needs."

Closed escrow sales of existing,  
single-family detached homes in  
California totaled 542,120 in No-  
vember at a seasonally adjusted an-  
nualized rate, according to infor-  
mation collected by C.A.R. from  
more than 90 local Realtor associ-  
ations statewide.

See REPORT, Page B4

## Happy Holidays

From **RE/MAX** EAST BAY HILLS

**To Our Clients:**

"Because of you, every year we  
have grown. Thank you  
for your continued support and  
referrals."

*~Your friends at RE/MAX  
East Bay Hills*

**A Message from the  
Manager:**

"I want to extend a special thanks  
to our great team of Real Estate  
professionals for their dedicated  
service to our clients and for their  
belief in RE/MAX."

*~Chuck Ingram*

(510) 339-4100

2070 Mountain Boulevard  
Oakland

RE/MAX EAST BAY HILLS



# Bathroom renovation can really add to your home's value, appeal

BY CATHERINE NEEDHAM  
CORRESPONDENT

When Jim Peters began to remodel his hallway bathroom he thought it would be a simple process. Move the counters here, leave the bathtub there, select a new vanity and sink. Presto! The new bathroom would please his family and help with the eventual resale of his Pleasanton ranch-style home.

Not so fast. Even an amateur handyman and professional engineer like Peters was surprised by what it took to redo the 8' x 6' room. Besides the layout, many more details had to be considered. Which style and material should the sink, counter and vanity be? Should he leave the old mirror and shower tile? What really works best for the money?

Whether you're a do-it-yourselfer or can hire designers and contractors to change the look of your bath and kitchen, you probably face a similar situation. People are swamped with choices for all aspects of bathroom remodeling.

Showrooms and countless magazines feature beautiful bathrooms that make your head spin while complicating decision-making. Read on for what our sources say is currently hot and has value for your kitchen or bath.

People want the bathroom to be their sanctuary, according to Margie Little, certified kitchen and bath designer, Pleasant Hill. Though not as expensive as kitchens to remodel, bathrooms with that something special help sell houses. So what's new in home sanctuaries?

For the master bath, Lella Douglass, Douglas Designs, Dublin, says homeowners will get more bang for the buck if they have the ultimate bath: a double-bowl vanity and a separate jetted tub and shower area. The shower can include European glass doors, multiple shower heads and body sprays. Marble or wide mosaic tiles can cover the floor.

For the children's or hall bath, homeowners might want to choose mid-range quality products. A single shower, thermo-foil cabinets, ceramic-tile and solid counter surfaces are good selections. Use neutral colors and dress up the room with colored towels and accessories.

Because of space considerations, pedestal sinks are just right in half baths or powder rooms. This room is where you can let your personality show with fun vessel sinks made of glass or ceramic and perched on an iron stand, according to Douglass. Let go and paint the entire bathroom the same color.

When redoing a bath, focus on the largest surfaces first: cabinets, counters and floors. Nader prefers stone, granite or tile surfaces more than man-made materials for the counter and floor. Al-

though many people prefer taking showers over baths, Nader says have at least one tub in the house, whether it's in the hall or master bath.

People usually want at least one tub when they buy a home. Nader suggests people match the color of the toilet, tub and sink.

For small bathrooms she recommends a monochromatic look to make the room appear larger and give it continuity. Two built-in medicine chests are an excellent way to have storage room and keep precious counter space.

Also, install as large a framed

## Cost-control tips

Budgets disappear fast if used for contractors and high-end products. For those with their eyes on their wallets and the trends, don't despair. Our sources give the following 10 tips on cutting costs while adding value to your kitchen and bath.

■ Choose quality construction for cabinets. (Doesn't have to be most expensive ones.) Trim costs by choosing less fancy cabinet doors and finishes. Go with the glaze craze. Get the best finish your wallet allows.

■ If bath cabinets are in great condition, paint them for a new look and add decorative hardware. You don't have to change everything if the quality and style are still there. Paint is one of the least expensive ways to change these rooms' walls, too.

■ Run cabinets to ceiling and add crown molding.

■ If you can only afford tile for the counters, get the 12-inch by 12-inch size. They look more attractive and have less grout.

■ Under-mount bath sinks.

■ Use porcelain tile (less likely to crack) or ceramic tile for floors. Laminate for bathrooms won't add value or impact.

■ Don't spend a lot of money on one appliance or element and skimp on the others. The disparity shows. Spread the money around the room as evenly as possible.

■ Do part of the project this year and do the rest the following year, as your budget permits.

■ Avoid trendy items. Choose classic looks.



A GRANITE bathtub gives a bathroom a whole new look.

People want the bathroom to be their sanctuary. Although not as expensive as kitchens to remodel, bathrooms with that 'something special' help sell houses. So what's new in home sanctuaries?

mirror as possible. A combination shower and Jacuzzi tub with clear glass shower doors also add value. Marble shower walls or travertine tiles enhance the bathrooms' look and worth.

With young children, older seniors and an aging Baby Boomer population, homeowners may want to consider a universal design for their bathroom, adds Little. "Most accidents in the bathroom occur getting in and out of the shower," she says.

Grab bars, benches and toe ledges in the shower, wider bathroom doors (for wheelchairs), and a low shower threshold all add value to this remodel.

"Another plus to this design is that you don't have to remodel again when the kids are long gone," she says.

Little also recommends a shower for two with two shower heads in the master bath if there is no tub. She suggests manmade surfaces for counters and the shower if cleaning and maintenance are priorities. Otherwise marble is a fine choice for counters and decorative tiles for the shower.

## A little goes a long way

Like with kitchens, bathrooms have extras that aren't meant to add worth but are nice touches. Little points to floor warmers, towel warmers, hand-held showers on a vertical bar, two clothing drawers per person, steam units for the shower and electrical outlets inside the vanity (not for curling irons).

Nader reminds homeowners of any income that the more they aim for the higher-end look, the more value their house will have.



TRANSFORMED from outdated to elegant, this bathroom has a new countertop, mirror and attractive faucet fixtures.

## Resources

■ Premier Kitchens, 1432 S. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-472-0700, or 2 Theatre Square, Orinda, 925-253-9800.  
■ Douglass Designs Inc., 6694

Amador Plaza Rd., Dublin, 925-875-0745 and 3501 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-284-4560.  
www.douglassdesigns.com.  
■ Margie Little, 1432 Stonehedge Dr., Pleasant Hill, 925-930-6219. www.margielittle.com.

■ Home Maintenance Nader in Alamo, 888-888-8888.  
■ Marley & Co. Kitchens, Baths & Spas, 550 Hartz Ave., Danville, 925-837-3929

It's the most secure decision you will ever make.



\$99\*

Installed  
Odyssey Residential  
Security System



What have you got?

## System Includes:

One Master Control Panel  
One Keypad  
Two Door Contacts  
One Motion Sensor

One Interior Sounder  
One Battery Backup  
One Phone Jack  
Warning Sign & Decals\*

Call today for a FREE security system

800-610-1000  
www.bayalarm.com

\*Two year monitoring agreement required at \$29/month EFT (\$694.00). This security system becomes the property of the homeowner. Sign and decal to remain the property of Bay Alarm Company. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer not valid towards the purchase of an Odyssey LS security system. Must present advertisement to redeem offer. Taxes and permit fees do not apply. Expires 12/31/02.

## Real Estate & Home

A Weekly Publication of  
Hills Newspapers

General Manager.....Shareef Dajani  
Editor.....Dennis Evanosky

Alameda 510-748-1688

Advertising Sales.....Joyce Thompson  
Open Homes Guide FAX.....510-748-1679  
Albany, Berkeley, Kensington  
510-262-2755

Advertising Sales.....Emily Wallace  
Open Homes Guide FAX.....510-243-3500

El Cerrito, Richmond, West County 510-262-2799

Advertising Sales.....Kris Maples  
Open Homes Guide FAX.....510-243-3500

Oakland, Piedmont 925-952-2630

Advertising Sales.....M. J. Brandenberger  
Open Homes Guide FAX.....925-943-8347

HILLS NEWSPAPERS  
BERKELEY VOICE / THE JOURNAL / MONTCLARION  
PIEDMONT / ALAMEDA JOURNAL

## New York Style Lofts



850 West Grand  
New York Style  
Lofts right here  
in the heart of  
the San Francisco  
bay Area.



West Grand lofts is a 19 unit live/work development with 4 commercial units, situated 5 minutes from Downtown Oakland, 10 minutes from Downtown San Francisco, and moments to all freeway exits. Average size - 1,500 sq. ft. with fireplaces, bamboo and stained/sealed concrete floors, private balconies and indoor secure parking.

Brenda Walker  
(510) 868-1400



WEEKLY SALES

<b>ALAMEDA</b>	
1000 Begonia Dr - \$455,000	1000 Bismarck Ln - \$390,000
1000 Broadway - \$530,000	1000 Colma Ballena - \$440,000
1000 El Portal - \$396,000	1000 Encinal Av - \$585,000
1000 Kitty Hawk Rd #104 - \$585,000	
<b>BERKELEY</b>	
1000 Curtis St - \$595,000	1000 Pierce #2205 - \$350,000
1000 Santa Fe Av - \$400,000	1000 Stannage Av - \$589,000
1000 Stannage Av - \$465,000	
<b>EMERYVILLE</b>	
1000 7th St - \$575,000	1000 Arch St - \$525,000
1000 Ashby Av #4 - \$341,000	1000 Cedar St - \$352,000
1000 Contra Costa - \$875,000	1000 Deakin #M - \$500,000
1000 Derby St - \$425,000	1000 Grizzly Peak - \$143,000
1000 Grizzly Peak Bl - \$542,000	1000 Indian Rock Av - \$849,000
1000 Josephine St - \$576,000	1000 McGee Av - \$395,000
1000 Olympus Av - \$690,000	1000 Oregon St - \$500,000
1000 Russell St - \$399,000	1000 San Pedro - \$550,000
1000 Santa Barbara - \$770,000	1000 Vistamont Av - \$680,000
<b>HERMITO</b>	
1000 Colusa Av - \$488,000	1000 Cutting Bl - \$680,000
1000 Donal Av - \$365,000	1000 Ganges Av - \$561,000
1000 Liberty St - \$785,000	1000 Mono Av - \$430,000
<b>RODRIGUEZ</b>	
1000 Allview Av - \$370,000	1000 Apian Wy - \$425,000
1000 Corte Arango - \$375,000	1000 Kicrease Cr - \$315,000
1000 Lindell Dr - \$340,000	1000 San Pablo Dam Rd #A - \$700,000
<b>WILMINGTON</b>	
1000 Admiral Dr #282 - \$244,000	1000 Admiral Dr #F417 - \$262,000
1000 Anchor Dr #492 - \$300,000	
<b>WILMINGTON</b>	
1000 Admore Rd - \$765,000	1000 Kingston Rd - \$525,000
1000 York Av - \$595,000	
<b>ALAND</b>	
1000 102nd Av - \$260,000	1000 104th Av - \$255,000
1000 106th Av - \$275,000	1000 108th Av - \$299,000
1000 110th Av - \$265,000	1000 112th Av - \$405,000
1000 114th Av - \$266,000	1000 116th Av - \$349,000
1000 118th Av - \$260,000	1000 120th Av - \$345,000
1000 122nd Av - \$265,000	1000 124th Av - \$230,000
1000 126th Av - \$411,000	1000 128th Av - \$225,000
1000 130th Av - \$269,000	1000 132nd Av - \$232,000
1000 134th Av - \$126,000	1000 136th Av - \$127,000
1000 138th Av - \$784,000	1000 140th Av - \$477,000
1000 142nd Av - \$210,000	1000 144th Av - \$380,000
1000 146th Av - \$278,000	1000 148th Av - \$525,000
1000 150th Av - \$215,000	1000 152nd Av - \$1,050,000
1000 154th Av - \$220,000	1000 156th Av - \$611,000
1000 158th Av - \$170,000	1000 160th Av - \$317,500
1000 162nd Av - \$99,000	1000 164th Av - \$540,000
1000 166th Av - \$480,000	1000 168th Av - \$1,295,000
1000 170th Av - \$335,000	1000 172nd Av - \$522,000
1000 174th Av - \$885,000	1000 176th Av - \$495,500
1000 178th Av - \$154,000	1000 180th Av - \$610,000
1000 182nd Av - \$230,000	1000 184th Av - \$402,000
1000 186th Av - \$1,170,000	1000 188th Av - \$249,000
1000 190th Av - \$359,500	1000 192nd Av - \$435,000
1000 194th Av - \$644,000	1000 196th Av - \$750,000
1000 198th Av - \$185,000	1000 200th Av - \$535,000
1000 202nd Av - \$290,000	1000 204th Av - \$386,000
1000 206th Av - \$430,000	1000 208th Av - \$285,000
1000 210th Av - \$325,000	1000 212nd Av - \$400,000
1000 214th Av - \$240,000	1000 216th Av - \$715,000
1000 218th Av - \$885,000	1000 220th Av - \$241,500
1000 222nd Av - \$215,000	1000 224th Av - \$400,000
1000 226th Av - \$280,000	1000 228th Av - \$390,000

PIEDMONT

90 Oakmont - \$1,260,000	40 Sharon Av - \$1,250,000
--------------------------	----------------------------

RICHMOND

331 21st St - \$320,000	456 27th St - \$510,000
521 2nd St - \$50,000	401 35th St - \$450,000
630 35th St - \$250,000	559 42nd St - \$231,000
1319 Battery St - \$260,000	5154 Carriage Dr - \$478,000
1833 Giarmita St - \$235,000	1520 Cypress Av - \$270,000
2719 Downer Av - \$270,000	2027 Florida Av - \$240,000
1546 Giarmita St - \$286,000	1833 Giarmita St - \$235,000
3023 Humphrey Av - \$270,000	1706 Larkspur Pl - \$435,000
416 Maine Av - \$495,000	1536 Merced St - \$335,000
56 Murdock St - \$255,000	701 Payne Ct - \$305,000
3000 Phillips Ct - \$325,000	3977 Selmi Grove - \$459,000
2574 Sheldon Dr - \$252,500	628 South 16th St - \$260,000
208 South 42nd St - \$225,000	232 South 4th St - \$255,000

SAN LEANDRO

1515 152nd Av - \$287,000	349 Accolade Dr - \$478,000
1218 Aileen St - \$328,000	1603 Bancroft Av - \$382,000
1400 Carpenter 212 - \$219,000	15327 Dewey St - \$340,000
15219 Edgemoor St - \$330,000	435 Elsie Av - \$362,000
715 Jubilee Ln - \$247,000	727 Jubilee Ln - \$585,500
15360 Laverne Dr - \$385,000	2149 Sol St - \$465,000
343 Thornton St - \$160,000	1818 Vining Dr - \$380,000
453 Violet St - \$294,000	

SAN LORENZO

15736 P. Del Campo - \$350,000	15943 P. Largavista - \$349,000
16000 Silverleaf Dr - \$459,000	15756 Via Arroyo - \$350,000
17205 Via Estrella - \$312,500	17018 Via Margarita - \$363,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 14	LOWEST PRICE: \$180,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$728,000	AVERAGE PRICE: \$457,857

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 5	LOWEST PRICE: \$350,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$465,000	MEDIAN PRICE: \$455,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$479,800	

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 19	LOWEST PRICE: \$143,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$875,000	MEDIAN PRICE: \$525,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$531,421	

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 3	LOWEST PRICE: \$244,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$300,000	

See SALES, Page B5

What would your home of the future be like?

■ Looking at future plans with some help from my friends

We've just purchased a new home (well, it's new to us). There are many features in the new home that we did not have in the old. For instance, there is recessed lighting, climate control and an automatic sprinkler system.

All the rooms, except for the baths are hi-tech wired. This reminded me of a trip, when I was a kid, to the Henry Ford Museum in Detroit, Michigan.

My Dad was big on taking his four children to museums and historical sights (whether we wanted to go or not).

This trip was to see an exhibit of what life would be like in the future. Homes, cars, clothing, the whole shebang. I never forgot it. That was 30 years ago.

So what happened to the gadget that cleaned your teeth in two seconds? Where are the disposable clothes that looked like something the Jetsons would wear? Where's my replicator? I want to push a button and say "Earl Gray — hot".

Are were not as advanced as predicted or were the imaginings of the sixties just too far out? I typed into my trusty computer "homes of the future" and came up with some interesting sites. Come visit with me.

At USNews.com, I visited the home (mansion) of Bill Gates. Of course, everything was hi-tech. There was a huge indoor/outdoor pool. An entire building was an exercise facility.

The home boasted a theater with popcorn machine. A garage was built entirely underground, large enough to park 10 cars. Since I like a good party, my favorite was the dining room with seating for 24 people.

I saw an apartment of the future named "comHOME". The kitchen was set up so one would never have to eat alone, just invite an on-screen guest. The living room could be linked with another for virtual visits. One live/work situation showed lofts and live-above units, where the apartment was above a storefront (say, my grandpa built a home like that in the 1920s).

At the Jackson County Museum of History near Kansas City, there is a 1953 exhibit of an All Electric Home. A remote switch in the master bedroom turns on the coffee maker in the kitchen. There are moonlight lights in the hallways that come on at dusk.

SMARTHOME.com is filled with gadgetry and remotes of every sort. As you tour this futuristic home, there are links to order items, as many of these hi-tech innovations already exist!

Try these. Remote control drapes. A self-operating lawnmower (how about that Daddy). Open the front door with a keypad, like an automobile keypad. Bathroom floors that warm up.

A small greenhouse attached to the kitchen, to provide fresh vegetables and herbs all year.

Some presidential responses

I asked our local real estate organization presidents what features they thought we would see in future homes. Here are their responses.

Georgia Richardson, 2003 Oakland Association of Realtors president — "In the future, homes will come with built-in

I think the home of the future will have an ultrasonic feature that will cause an instant cleaning of the interior of the home. A homeowner will be able to push a button and the cleaning is done.

Betty Moore, 2002-2003 ARPB president

computers in every room. All the telephones will be visual. So you can see the person you're talking to and they can see you." Pictophones?

Joan Brunswick, 2003 Berkeley Association of Realtors president — "Nobody can know what houses will be like 20 to 40 years from now. However, the trend in housing seems to be in the area of automatic items.

"I would not be surprised if the house of the future would be built with remote control devices that receive signals by phone, while the owner is still at their job.

"Devices that turn on the heat, fire up the oven, heat the evening meal, start the hot tub and turn on the music. When the owner walks in the door, there will be little to do than set the table and eat."

Betty Moore, 2003-2004 Associated Real Property Brokers president — "I think the home of

the future will have an ultrasonic feature that will cause an instant cleaning of the interior of the home. A homeowner will be able to push a button and the cleaning is done."

Patricia Boule Hinde, 2003 Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter president — "Dishes. Everybody hates to do dishes. There will be sonic a dishwasher and the whole load will be clean in seconds. Or better yet, we will have disposable dishes made from organic materials. Use the dishes for one meal and then put them in the garbage disposal."

Vincent San Nicolas, 2003 Alameda Association of Realtors president — "I don't think homes will be too much different from today, except for more technical aspects.

Many of the homes being built today will still be standing and the cost of changing substantially



BOBBIE REID  
Credit Worthy

cient home both in heating and cooling. These will be built to be self-supportive, rather than needing outside utilities."

Getting around

There was a car of the future at that exhibit I saw oh, so many years ago. You could input your destination and by auto-pilot the car took you there.

It showed the driver and front seat passenger turned around playing a game with the folks in the back seat.

Now, wouldn't that type of automobile be an answer for the stress of driving in Bay Area traffic? So, where is it?

Here's wishing good health and prosperity to all of you, as we begin another new year. Happy 2003!

To get in touch with your 2003 real estate news for my column:

- Send an e-mail to bobbiereid@mindspring.com
- Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191
- Call me at 510-441-7190.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Serving you even better through Pacific Union Real Estate Group

**Julie Nachtwey**  
Residential Realtor  
510.540.8743  
jnachtwey@pacunion.com  
www.julienachtwey.com

Now Showing:  
258 Alvarado Road  
Mediterranean  
Masterpiece

PACIFIC UNION  
GMA Real Estate Services

may be prohibitive. As far as new

## Montclair Better Homes Realty

I would like to thank all of my friends and clients for giving me another record-breaking year!

Your support and confidence in me has made all the difference.

I wish you all the joy and happiness of the holiday season with good health, peace and prosperity in 2003.

Best Wishes from Nahid and her team.

"Your Best Move"  
Nahid Nassiri  
Office: 510.339.8400  
Voice: 510.287.5770  
www.NahidNassiri.com

construction, I see a more effi-

## The Dave And Carla Higgins Homeselling System

# Your Home Sold In 60 Days, Guaranteed Or We Will Sell It For Free!

To Find Out More, Call 1-800-525-3704 Id#2076 Anytime, 24 Hours A Day For Pre-recorded Information Which Explains This Offer. (Talk To No Agent.)

### 24 Hour Talking Ads Talk To No Agent • Pre-Recorded Info • Call 1-800-525-3704 & Enter Id#

**\$649,000 • HADDON CRAFTSMAN**  
Wonderful remodeled home in prestigious Haddon Hill. Large level back yard, gourmet kitchen, separate artist studio, two fireplaces, minutes from Lake Merritt. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3312

**\$799,000 • PIEDMONT**  
Great Piedmont home with level yard and patio. Close to Piedmont Ave. shops and Grand Ave. Quiet street. 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3213

**\$439,000 • MONTCLAIR RETREAT**  
Minutes from Montclair Village. Tranquil retreat, cozy living room w/ fireplace, exposed wood beam ceiling, large detached artist studio w/ dark room. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3331

**\$759,000 • HADDON HILL**  
Huge Colonial in prestigious Haddon Hill. Level yard, views of Lake and City, master bedroom suite, gourmet kitchen. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3333

**Sold For 42% Over Asking Price**

**VICTORIAN DUPLEX**  
"Dave and Carla sold my house for 42% over the asking price. I would never consider making a real estate decision without them."

**MAURICE MIRANDA**  
OAKLAND FIREFIGHTER

**DAVE & CARLA HIGGINS**  
Double Your Expectations

**FREE QUICK OVER THE PHONE HOME EVALUATION. CALL US AT 510-595-7699**

**Prudential**  
California Realty



## Report

FROM PAGE B1

Statewide home resale activity increased 9.8 percent from the 493,870 sales pace recorded in November 2001.

"Year-to-date sales of single-family homes were up 13 percent through November compared to last year," said C.A.R. Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young. "Sales posted a 6.4 percent decline last month compared to a October's strong pace."

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2002 would be if sales maintained the November pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during November 2002 was \$328,310, a 21.5 percent increase over the \$270,210 median for November 2001, C.A.R. reported. The November 2002 median price increased 1.6 percent compared to October 2002.

### Some highlights

■ C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in November 2002 was 3.1 months, compared to 3.4 months for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

■ Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 6.05 percent during November 2002, down from 6.66 percent in November 2001, according to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 4.14 percent in November 2002 compared to 5.20 percent in November 2001.

■ The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 28 days in November 2002, compared to 33 days for the same period a year ago.

## Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on B8.

MONTCLAIR



"Your Best Move"

Nahid Nassiri

Office: 510.339.8400

Voice: 510.287.5770

www.NahidNassiri.com

### Montclair Better Homes Realty

I would like to thank all of my friends and clients for giving me another record-breaking year!

Your support and confidence in me has made all the difference.

I wish you all the joy and happiness of the holiday season with good health, peace and prosperity in 2003.

Best Wishes from Nahid and her team.



## Happy New Year

MANY THANKS TO MY GREAT CLIENTS  
AND TO MY FELLOW AGENTS.

WISHING YOU THE BEST AND MORE IN 2003



WWW.FRITZSELLSHOMES.COM

FRITZ HOCHFELLNER, REALTOR-ASSOCIATE

DIRECT LINE: 510.338.1348

Please recycle.

## Don't "miss the boat" on your home refinance...

Call the Mortgage Lender you can trust

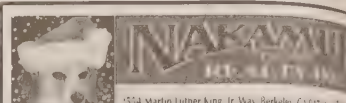
- FREE Same-Day Phone Consultation
- Quick and Efficient Loan Pre-Approvals
- Reduced Documentation Loans
- No Points, No Fees Refinances
- Cash-out from Equity
- Investment Property Purchase Loans
- Home Equity Lines of Credit, Second Mortgages



510.233.5578  
Ellen Semon  
Mortgage Consultant



501 Canal Blvd., Suite H, Richmond, CA 94804  
Real Estate Broker, California Department of Real Estate, License # 00030028



2514 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94702  
**BERKELEY**  
Upper middle class - Katoch  
Residential income plus  
Lots of new paint, and updates  
shows very well.  
Busy Berkeley location. CALL

**HAYWARD**  
Newly available Haywood. Beautiful spacious 4BD/3BA home. Close to BART, shopping, schools. Age young. A real pride of ownership. excellent! Call us today. New Price at only \$485,000

Adan and Mary

Behind on your mortgage payments? Know your possible options! You may be able to:  
• Negotiate a forbearance agreement  
• Sell your property as is  
• Get quick funding from private lenders  
• Consolidate / Refinance  
• Preserve your credit  
• Negotiate a short sale  
FREE private consultation. Don't put it off and wait any longer. CALL US TODAY.

Nakamura Realty has been DOING real estate since 1950. We've successfully helped clients in climbing markets as well as in slowing economic times. Many offices can't say this. Several of our agents are bilingual. Call us today.

Have you received a Notice of Default?

## 2 New Listings

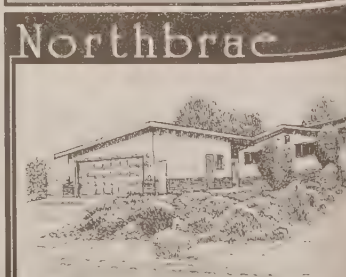


**167 B Street, Vallejo**  
New England Colonial-style two bedroom. Sharp & updated, new kitchen, new wrap-around wood deck-ideal for entertaining. EZ care fenced yard, car garage. View toward Mare Island & Napa River. Priced at \$279,999.



**6750 Snowdon Ave., El Cerrito**  
Get the most for your money. Live high on a hill in this large 7 bedroom San Francisco Bay view two story home. Large living room w/fireplace, large room, family room, 2 car attached garage. Level yard & much more. Listed at \$499,000.

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
**BARTELS-REALTORS®**  
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



**El Cerrito - Golden Gate Views!**  
Lovely 3BD/2BA home with Golden Gate and Bay views! Courtyard entry, formal dining room, open beam ceilings, spacious rooms, big 2 car garage & more! Walk to BART, shops and schools. Here's an opportunity to own a great home at a great price just by bringing a little tender loving care along with you. **\$499,000**

**Berkeley Hills Compound—Bay Views!** Lovely 3+BD/4BA home with spacious cottage, all on 2 lovely lots. (Adjacent lot also available). Offered at **\$925,000**.

www.northbrae.com  
Northbrae Properties • 526-4336  
1600 Hopkins Street • Berkeley, CA

## CONTRA COSTA TIMES MORTGAGE GUIDE

### Market Indicator\*

Last wk This wk  
5.875 5.750

www.mtgeinfo.com/cct

Advertisement  
Information by INFOTRAK  
National Data Services

COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Rates as of 12/20/02 COMMENTS
<b>A American Residential</b> 800-566-8470 DRE#130340 Fees=\$1379	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 0.000 5.810 ... 60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 0.000 6.140 ... 60	15-yr Fixed 5.125 ... 0.000 5.280 ... 60	30-yr Fixed 5.500 ... 1.000 5.740 ... 60	Re-fi, Purchase, or Consolidate Now! Free Approval! M-F 8:30-9:00 Sat-Sun 8:30-5:00
<b>A Superior Mortgage</b> 800-591-4446 DRE#1242793 Fees=\$1889	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 0.000 5.930 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.180 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.125 ... 0.000 5.310 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125 ... 0.000 5.310 ... 30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK Apply online. See Habla Espanol www.superior-mtg.net
<b>AAA Mortgage</b> 888-821-6200 DRE#1096146 Fees=\$1599	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.967 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.040 ... 45	15-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 0.000 5.403 ... 45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 0.000 5.572 ... 45	Lower rates loans available. Open weekends. Great (HELOCs)
<b>AccessBanc Mortgage</b> 800-661-2765 DRE#00892684 Fees=\$1430	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.937 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.031 ... 30	Jumbo Special* ...	Jumbo Special* ...	3yr/6mo ARM 4.375%, 4.128 APR; 0/0 Fee 5yr/6mo ARM 5.000%, 4.042 APR; 0/0 Fee Prepay & other restrictions may apply
<b>A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate</b> 800-640-5588 DRE#1197415 Fees=\$1820	30-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 0.000 5.680 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 2.000 5.990 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 4.875 ... 2.000 5.260 ... 30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.000 ... 2.000 5.410 ... 30	Best Rate Promise! Open 7 days 9-9 S.J., E.Bay & Peninsula Offices www.ofreloans.com 24/7
<b>Bay Area Olympic Funding</b> 888-833-1000 DRE#1197415 Fees=\$1658	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 0.000 6.012 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.000 6.398 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo* 1.850 ... 0.000 1.863 ... 30	25yr/6m JMB ARM 3.500 ... 0.000 3.512 ... 30	UP to \$8,000,000 CASH OUT 4.55% APR ARM, NO income verify, www.MegaJumbo.com All ARMs Int. Only. *Pol. neg. arm
<b>California Mortgage Mart</b> 800-947-4769 DRE#00408187 Fees=\$1758	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.830 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.050 ... 45	15-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 0.000 5.380 ... 45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 0.000 5.550 ... 45	Check our website for updated rates & Loan Application. www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com
<b>Cal-State Funding</b> 800-883-5363 DRE#00674441 Fees=\$2010	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 1.000 5.940 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 1.000 6.190 ... 45	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875 ... 1.000 5.070 ... 45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250 ... 1.000 4.440 ... 45	Rates change daily Call for latest rates
<b>CMG Mortgage</b> 800-958-5339 DRE#1170028 Fees=\$1433	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 1.000 5.907 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 1.000 6.122 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000 ... 1.000 4.185 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 ... 1.250 4.785 ... 30	Open Sat & Sun. Quik Qualifier & stated income option available. Financing for people with less than perfect credit.
<b>Downey Savings &amp; Loan</b> 800-798-2148 DOC#6037471 Fees=\$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 1.125 5.882 ... 75	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 1.250 6.132 ... 75	1-mo COFI ARM* 2.450 ... 1.000 5.349 ... 45		Direct lender. 45 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mortgages; *Pol. neg. arm Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
<b>FINet.com</b> 800-641-7556 DRE#00921943 Fees=\$1717	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call			Call us for your low credit and unique situations. 1-800-641-7556
<b>Intercontinental Mortgage</b> 800-848-6002 DRE#01347152 Fees=\$1575	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 0.250 5.865 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.250 6.063 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 0.000 5.402 ... 30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 0.000 5.566 ... 30	Apply online 24/7 Check website for more great rates Rates updated daily
<b>Lenders Northstar Mtg Grp</b> 888-568-9060 DRE#1345744 Fees=\$2224	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.375 6.002 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 ... 1.000 6.046 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.375 ... 1.000 5.680 ... 30	1-yr ARM Jumbo 2.950 ... 1.000 4.017 ... 45	*Pol. neg. Armort. Call for zero point quotes or check rates & apply online: www.nsmloans.com
<b>Matrix Investment Corp.</b> 800-366-8916 DOC#130418 Fees=\$4050	30-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 1.500 5.540 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.625 5.626 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 4.625 ... 1.625 5.059 ... 30	30-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 0.000 5.736 ... 30	Good & bad credit considered. Brokers welcome! Call us today! www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com
<b>Mortgage Market</b> 800-837-5626 DRE#00897562 Fees=\$1875	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	15-yr Fixed call	5/1 ARM Jumbo call	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. All gov't loans, 100% loans, credit lines, construction.
<b>Northern Mutual Corp.</b> 888-441-2600 DRE#01243581 Fees=\$2648	30-yr Fixed 5.740 ... 2.000 5.981 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 ... 2.000 5.897 ... 30	20-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.480 ... 2.000 5.759 ... 30		WOW!! Look at our Jumbo int. rates! We guarantee closing costs won't incur at closing. E-mail Steve@northernmutual.com
<b>Pacific West Financial</b> 800-798-7334 DRE#01124561 Fees=\$1694	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.997 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.000 6.172 ... 30	5/25 Conforming 4.625 ... 0.000 4.739 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250 ... 0.000 5.294 ... 30	See Habla Espanol 100% purchase loans Apply at pacificwestfinancial.net
<b>Premier Mortgage Group</b> 888-389-6633 DOC#130386 Fees=\$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 0.000 5.807 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000 6.023 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 0.000 5.344 ... 30	5/1 ARM 5.125 ... 0.000 4.890 ... 30	Apply online at www.pmgmortgage.com 3/1 ARM Jrm: 4.25% 0 pt 4.447 APR Now Open Saturdays

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT RATES. AND MUCH MORE

www.mtgeinfo.com/cct

- ◆ Learn about each lender's products & services
- ◆ Email questions/scenarios to lenders
- ◆ Learn about closing costs and types of loans
- ◆ Hotlinks to all lenders' websites
- ◆ Check out our useful mortgage calculators
- ◆ Prequalify, preapprove or apply online

Rates based on \$150,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$300,000) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance if required. Lock-rate loan period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. \*Ave 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points Fees are estimated costs and may vary from loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Fees" in "Current Mortgage Rates" section of website + contact each company for details. Copyright 2002, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

If you would like to be included in this Mortgage Guide, please call 781 276-1711





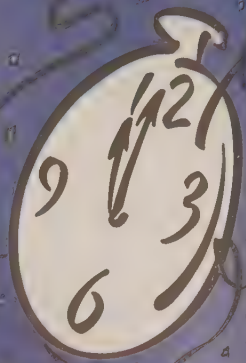


# Happy New Year

From Your  
Real Estate  
Community

One of the true joys of the holiday season is to say Thank You for your real estate business and wish you a happy, healthy, prosperous new year.

**Carol Heath-Kim**  
(510) 525-2346



*Fear less, hope more; whine less, breathe more; talk less, say more; hate less, love more; And all good things are yours.*

Happy New Years to the Best People in the world - my clients And many thanks to all who helped make my 2002 so great.

**Natalie Cuttler, Realtor**

Prudential California Realty  
2 Tunnel Road, Berkeley, CA 94705  
510.845.0211 Office  
510.986.9543 VM  
e-mail: natashac@earthlink.net



*I wish you a joyful and prosperous year.*

**Logene Butler**  
(510) 701-4344



Happy New Year  
Bonne Année  
Próspero Año Nuevo  
Христосовым и  
Новым Годом  
恭贺新禧  
عبر سنة سعيدة



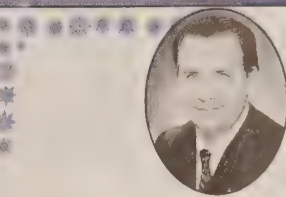
Seasons Greetings and  
Happy New Year!

I look forward to helping you with your Real Estate needs in 2003.

**Rita Smith**

Realtor

(510) 525-3681



**PETER HOLMES**

Home (Financing!) For the Holidays

STERLING MORTGAGE, INC.

885 Island Drive, Suite 205

Alameda, CA 94502 • (510) 749-7772



Have a Happy, Healthy  
Safe New Year!



**TERE LEE** (510) 885-1515  
李麗珠

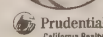
885 Island Drive

Happy Holidays

Thank You Friends,  
Family & Clients for a  
prosperous year.  
Please keep in touch.

**Victoria Curtis**

(510) 305-7775



Happy Holidays and  
Seasons Greetings.

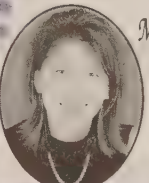
Many thanks to my clients and friends.

**Lisa Lawley**

(510) 522-5827

bayside real estate

1812 Santa Clara, Alameda • (510) 522-5827



Wishing You Peace and  
Prosperity in 2003



**Jan Mason**

(510) 522-8075

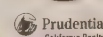
OMM, INC.

SALES • RENTALS • MANAGEMENT

2514 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda

Thank you to my agents  
and our clients for a  
wonderful 2002. May  
2003 bring each of you  
health & happiness.

**Nancy Blom**



Hope Every Moment of the  
Coming Year is Something  
to Celebrate

**Shirley McWilliam**

(510) 814-4825

HARBOR  
BAY  
REALTY

885 Island Drive, Alameda



**Ann Nichols**

(510) 338-1319

Wishing You  
Peace and  
Happiness  
the New Year



Thanks for a wonderful  
year! Happy New Year from  
Alameda Realty!

Peter Caponio

**ALAMEDA REALTY**

1902 Broadway 522-8585

Large Enough To Serve You . . . Small Enough To Care  
www.AlamedaRealty.com



*Your Hills Real Estate Team*

*Joan Childs, M.J. Brandenberger, Kris Maples,  
Joyce Thompson, Marlene Vizcaino, Emily Wallace*

Best Wishes from

HILLS NEWSPAPER

THE DEFTY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE MOUNTAIN  
THE HILLTOPPER • ALAMEDA JOURNAL



# Happy New Year

## From Your Real Estate Community

### Happy Holidays!



**Mark & Dianna Wyman**  
(510) 522-5827



**bayside real estate**

bayside-realestate.com  
1812 Santa Clara Alameda  
(510) 522-5827

### Happy Holidays!



**Diane Crosby**  
Holmgren & Associates

1900 Mountain Blvd.  
Oakland, CA 94611  
510-339-2121



(510) 848-2724

2554 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way,  
Berkeley, CA 94704

NakamuraRealty@aol.com

## A HOLIDAY MESSAGE

### PLEASE READ

Although winter and the holidays are now upon us, business hasn't slowed down at Nakamura Realty. Demand remains very strong for homes and apartments. If you're considering a sale, or even remotely thinking about it, please contact us now, as in today or tomorrow. We'll look at what your property may realistically sell for, what you'll probably net from escrow, and most importantly, what your next step will be after the sale of your home or apartment. We realize that it's tough to leave your property if there's no destination in sight, be it relocation or 1031 tax deferred exchange. Beginners to sales and exchanges are welcome.

So, although many people are full of egg-nog and caramel popcorn and cannot be reached because they're out of town, **Earning Your Business** is still a priority at Nakamura Realty, holidays or not.

Contact us anytime, 24/7/365 to speak with one of our knowledgeable, caring and action oriented Realtor professionals.

Since the Christmas of 1950, all of us at Nakamura Realty wish you a safe Holiday Season and may 2003 be a prosperous New Year!

Eric K.

From Your Friends and Maggie at Nakamura Realty,



Maggie

Adan P. Sanchez (Hablo Espanol)  
E. Steven Malaki  
Elaine F. Kawakami  
Eric N. Kawakami  
James E. Obbanya  
Lien Hue Ly (Cantonese, Vietnamese)  
Li-Li Chang  
Robert W. Harvey  
Steve M. Yoshimura  
Serena Tao McClory (Mandarin)  
Shauna Sullivan

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Best Wishes  
for a splendid 2003  
full of  
\* Good Health  
\* Prosperity  
\* Peace



**Claire Cunningham**  
(510) 287-9065



May your New Year  
be filled with peace,  
health & happiness.  
Best Wishes



**Lisa Friedman**  
(510) 986-9547



Thank you for your support throughout the year.  
With every real estate sale, the Arthritis  
Foundation and Women's Cancer Resource Center  
will benefit. Happy Holidays!



**Ronda and John  
Bickley**  
(510) 769-1606

**Bickley**  
REAL ESTATE

Wishing you all a very  
Happy New Year!



**Lisa Anderson**  
(510) 523-5300

**HOME EQUITY LINK**

May peace, joy and the magic of the  
Holiday Season be with you throughout  
the coming year.



**Ruth Masonek, CRS, SRES**  
(510) 748-1101

*Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.*

Special thanks to my family, clients  
and friends for a wonderful year.  
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**



**Linda Larkin**  
(510) 521-5210



2515 Clement Ave., Alameda

May 2003 be the best year yet  
for you and your loved ones.



**Nancy Hinkley**  
(510) 433-2842



342 Highland Ave., Piedmont

Season's Greetings!

Many Thanks  
for your Friendship  
And Business in 2002



**Aliki Vasdekis**  
(510) 869-5342



Aliki.Vasdekis@pruweb.com

## Your Hills Real Estate Team

Joan Childs, M.J. Brandenberger, Kris Maples,  
Joyce Thompson, Marlene Vizcaino, Emily Wallace

## Best Wishes from

**HILLS NEWSPAPERS**

THE BERKELEY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE MONTCLARIO •  
THE PIEDMONT • ALAMEDA JOURNAL



# Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com



Advertise in the Open Home Guide!

The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice,  
The Journal & The Alameda Journal

Call 748-1688 or FAX 748-1679

## ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
309 Santa Clara	280/18A	2-4	\$488,500
Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com			
Gallagher & Lindsey	Bill Bissett		510-748-1108
955 Shorepoint Ct	280	2-4	\$282,500
#118			
Open Sunday, Main Island			
Kane & Associates	Jeanne Letizia		510-523-8059

## OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1715 Grand View Dr.			
The Grubb Co	480/3.5 Sun 2-4:30	\$1,850,000	
Bebe McRae	(510) 852-2133		
661 Via Rialto	480/3BA Sun 2-4:30	\$815,000	
Oakland Hills Pacific Union	Christian Downer	(510) 338-1367	
1 Blinnacle Hill	380/3BA Sun 2-4:30	\$775,000	
Oakland Hills Pacific Union	Bonnie Hirsch	(510) 338-1337	
3890 Hanly Rd.	380/2BA Sun 2-4	\$465,000	
Oakmore Assist-2-Sell	Howard Kane	(510) 530-6330	
375 Jayne #305	280/18A Sun 2-4:30	\$278,500	
Adams Point Wells & Bennett	Joy Bryden	(510) 531-7000 x218	



Local Sports

Local News

Local People

Our reporters work hard and hard to bring you news that affects your neighborhood.

We're in the loop

# More ads, more choice, more results inside your new, improved Hills Classifieds



Cruising for a car?

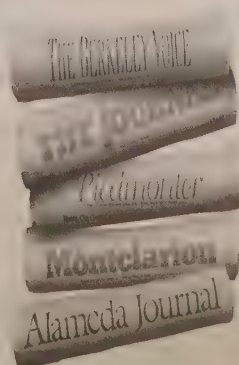
Hunting for a home?

Pursuing a position?

Searching for savings?

Now you can select from thousands of ads instead of just a few. Your new, improved Classifieds includes the expansive Contra Costa Times marketplace – giving you more inventory, more listings, more jobs, more private party ads. Plus: you can find classifieds online at [www.contracostatimes.com](http://www.contracostatimes.com)

To place an ad, call 339-8777. For Alameda call 748-1667.



# Classifieds





Sycamore Open M 1-5, RPT 10-5, Sat & Sun 10-5. Call 510-245-3574 or visit [www.westernpacifichousing.com](http://www.westernpacifichousing.com)











# Considering a redwood deck? What could be more natural?

CALIFORNIA REDWOOD ASSOCIATION

Redwood decks add beautiful, valuable living space to any home. Outdoor amenities like decks, trellises, privacy screens and benches can take the place of an extra room at a fraction of the cost.

In addition, a deck increases real estate value and provides a low maintenance outdoor area that keeps cooling and energy costs down.

The choice of materials is always important. Today, more than ever, families are concerned about the safety of products around the home. Unlike chemically-treated woods and petroleum-based products, redwood heartwood's durability is organic and natural. It is also important to know that today's redwood comes from forests that are managed to protect wildlife while providing wood on a sustainable basis. In fact, four out of five acres of commercial redwood forest land have been certified by third-party organizations as well-managed and harvested on a sustainable basis. More information is available from the California Redwood Association at [www.calredwood.org](http://www.calredwood.org).

If you are thinking about building a redwood deck yourself, you will be pleasantly surprised to learn that deck building is probably easier than you think. Helpful design and planning

the front of your house? Checking building codes in your area is an important preliminary step.

Traditionally, redwood has been a popular choice for decks because of its beauty and

weatherability. It is lightweight and easy to saw and handle, and redwood doesn't contain chemicals that create special on-site handling or disposal requirements. When you are working on a budget, the economical, knot-textured garden grades of redwood give good value for your dollar.

When working with wood outdoors, remember the type of hardware you use can affect the appearance of your project. Inferior hardware can cause stains and is unlikely to last as long as the redwood. It is worth the extra cost to use top quality, hot-dipped galvanized, stainless steel or aluminum hardware.

Other amenities complete the job of making a living center. Planters, benches, tables and furniture can turn a redwood deck into your "outdoor room." You may want to add a spa, privacy



**CURVED REDWOOD POOL DECK** features a Japanese-style entry gate, unusual railings and artful landscaping. Redwood heartwood provides durability without the use of man-made chemicals.

information is available from a variety of sources, including the California Redwood Association.

First of all, it is important to survey your yard and decide what problems building a deck can solve. Can it level off a sloping or uneven area? Can it turn an unusable side yard into a comfortable outdoor living area? Can it create an attractive, dramatic entry for



**SAPWOOD STREAKED** clear grade redwood was used to create a backyard deck trellis. The side of the deck provide privacy and add a whimsical touch, above. **BELOW LEFT:** a simple built with knot-textured construction heart is anchored to the house by triple shade shelter. garden paths and rock gardens complete the inviting setting.

screen, outdoor cooking center or shade trellis. However you decorate it, a redwood deck can change the way you enjoy and live in your home. It can be the extra room you always wanted. There is one more major advantage—what other room can you

hose down instead of vacuuming and dusting it?

## Here's help

If you are looking for some help and ideas in planning your deck, the California Redwood Association offers two booklets,

Redwood Landscaping and Redwood Decking. Send \$2.50 to California Redwood Association, Deck-02, 405 E. Highway 99, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949. Visit their Web site at [www.calredwood.org](http://www.calredwood.org).

## Learning, improving credit score

BY ROBERT BRUSS  
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

**Dear Bob:** I need to know how to improve my 524 credit score to 650 or higher. Are there any credit repair services to help me so I can buy a home? — Naomi B.

**Dear Naomi:** Most so-called credit repair services are rip-off scams. However, most large cities have non-profit consumer credit counseling services that charge very low fees for helping improve your credit rating.

You will find them listed in the phone book Yellow Pages, usually under "credit services."

Have you obtained your credit

report to check for errors?

If you have not done so, I recommend you go to [www.myfico.com](http://www.myfico.com) to obtain your credit report and FICO (Fair, Isaac and Co.) credit score, which is used by most mortgage lenders.

For \$12.95 you will receive this information, plus advice on how to improve your FICO score.

## Where to obtain excellent real estate forms

**Dear Bob:** I look forward to your real estate articles, which I read faithfully every week.

Some time ago you recommended a real estate forms com-

pany. Where can I obtain application, lease and estate forms? — Lisa B.

**Dear Lisa:** I recommend Professional Publishing Company, Calif. They have over 100 real estate forms in 10 states, for sales contracts, rental applications, and every other ready form you ever need.

To order their forms, credit card, their phone 288-2006.

This is a company I recommend to high not have any owners firm.



CALIFORNIA REDWOOD ASSOCIATION

Don't miss  
the Open  
Home Guide  
on B8.

PLEASE REMEMBER  
**Real Estate Advertising Deadlines**  
Space Reservations: **MONDAY, 12 Noon**  
Copy Requiring Typesetting: **MONDAY, 5 pm**  
Copy & Artwork: **TUESDAY, 12 Noon**  
Open Home Guide: **WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon**

A sampling of our current listings:

	<b>Nee Valley</b> Recently fully remodeled, this 3 bedroom 2 bath home with parking is just steps to 24th Street shopping and restaurants. \$878,000
	<b>Lower Pacific Heights</b> Beautifully remodeled top floor Victorian condo. Hardwood floors throughout. Granite & butcher block counters, stainless appliances. Downtown views. Huge basement with deeded storage. \$489,000
	<b>Bernal Heights</b> Largest Victorian available in Bernal, this 5 bedroom, 3 bath has been completely remodeled from the studs out combining period detail with the amenities of new construction. \$849,000

**Prudential California Realty**

**Jim Hedges**  
manager  
[slurionjim@aol.com](mailto:slurionjim@aol.com)

Award winning multi location family oriented fun SUPPORTIVE technology driven professional creative results oriented successful negotiators. INVEST

2241 Market St. San Francisco 415-575-5595  
2200 Union St. San Francisco 415-921-0113

## Happy Holidays!

Available by Appointment



**Berkeley \$289,000**  
2/2 - Fabulous opportunity! Home with non-conforming in-law unit, large kitchen, level yard, garage and more.



**Berkeley \$1,500,000**  
3+/- David Baker "Revenge of the Stuccoids" loft-style home with panoramic views. Easy living near Claremont.



**Kensington \$475,000**  
2+1/5 Architectural home with many redwood details included with view shops, schools & more.



**Oakland \$549,000**  
2+1 - 2,400 sq ft loft with 12-ft ceilings in warehouse conversion near Jack London Sq. Large windows, concrete floors.



**Oakland \$425,000**  
Duplex 3/2 & 1/1 in-law. Wonderful location near Piedmont Ave. Remodeled baths, classic kitchens with lots of light.



**Berkeley \$550,000**  
3/2 - 2 new construction standing houses, 1000 sq ft 3+ levels. Private yards, ceilings. [www.bobblumberg.com](http://www.bobblumberg.com)

## BERKELEY

2/2 - Large, bright condo. 1 car assigned parking; new paint & carpet, close to UC, Telegraph & College Ave. shops/restaurants. \$345,000

Res. Income - 2 buildings on one lot, 4 units in all - two 2bd/2ba, one 2bd/1ba, one studio. Located in downtown close to everything. \$765,000

2/1 - Needs cosmetics & updating but well worth it! Go to [www.bobblumberg.com](http://www.bobblumberg.com) \$298,000

## OAKLAND

4/2.5 - Brand new construction, architect designed, quiet Contemporary with Bay Area High quality throughout.

2/1 - Classic Laurel bungalow. Formal dining living rooms, fireplace, garage, fenced yard, to transportation & shops.

1/1 - Approx 2,000 square feet of raw space with roll-up door.

Your  
Complete  
Real Estate  
Resource.

[www.redoakrealty.com](http://www.redoakrealty.com)



**RED OAK  
REALTY**

3 Locations:  
1891 Solano Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94707  
510-527-3387  
2983 College Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94705  
510-849-9990  
2099 Pleasant Valley  
Oakland, CA 94611  
510-292-2000

15 YEAR FIXED		30 YEAR FIXED		3/1 ADJUSTABLE RATE	
RATE	APR	RATE	APR	RATE	APR
5.50%	5.530%	6.125%	6.144%	4.375%	4.304%



BLAKE A. BRYDON

510-747-1587

"Where People Come First"

1416 Park Street • Alameda

email: [BrydonB@BankofAlameda.com](mailto:BrydonB@BankofAlameda.com)



Member FDIC

\* 5.530% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%.  
\*\* 6.144% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan amount and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%.  
\*\*\* 4.304% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years, three years fixed and adjustable every year thereafter.  
Programs are based on primary, single family residences, townhouses and planned unit developments only. No prepayment penalty. Cash out allowed up to a maximum of 75% loan to value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualifications and underwriting requirements. Rates as of December 23, 2002 are subject to change without notice.



# St. Mary's edges Titans

## PREP BASKETBALL

was in the right place at the right time when the Titans' Tito Mays stole the ball with 32 seconds and drove for the game-tying layup only to have it disallowed after being called for the charge. The Panthers held on to their 61-59 advantage and crushed Hercules spirit by scoring a basket on their next possession.

The victory was paramount for a young St. Mary's team that is growing up at a quick pace with two consecutive wins after defeating Woodside by 23 on Friday night.

"It's a matter of gaining confidence," first-year Panthers coach Manny Nodar said. "We tell these kids each day in practice that they made the varsity so they're good enough. So winning two in a row is huge for us."

After being tied 31-31 at the half, Hercules (2-5) found itself in an eight-point hole after the Panthers closed out the third

quarter with a 10-2 run. The Titans put on a frantic run, but were ultimately done in by their results from the free throw line. Hercules shot just 10-for-36 from the stripe, and made just three of 19 in the second half.

Larry Gurganious and Simon Knight paced the Panther scoring attack as they combined for 24 points in the second half. Gurganious finished with a game-high 27 points and Knight scored 14 to go with his 10 rebounds. Thurston finished the night with eight points, nine rebounds and four assists.

Hercules was led by John Winston, who scored 21 and hauled in 10 rebounds.

**Albany 62, Richmond 57:** In the teams' second meeting of the preseason, the Cougars (3-6) got the best of the Oilers (2-8) once again. Albany had to overcome a slow start to do it, though. Richmond took an 11-8 lead into the

See PREP, Page 2



SIMON KNIGHT, left and Dominic Green of St. Mary's jump for a rebound in Saturday's nonleague game with Hercules.

# DeCoud gives nod to Cal

By Joe Stiglich  
STAFF WRITER

Pinole Valley High School defensive back Thomas DeCoud has given a verbal commitment to the Cal football team.

Although he still plans on taking recruiting trips to several other Pac-10 schools, DeCoud enjoyed his trip to Berkeley last weekend and said his commitment is solid.

"Coach (Jeff) Tedford is a nice guy, a pretty good guy," DeCoud said. "I've kind of followed them during the season. They had a huge turnaround. That was real appealing. They have a good coaching staff there."

The 6-foot-3, 190-pounder was named first-team All-Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League at defensive back and wide receiver, but he said the Bears envision him in the secondary.

DeCoud was one of the area's better cover cornerbacks all season.

"I was watching my game tape (of Cal) and it looks like they have fun playing defense," he said.

But DeCoud still wants to visit the other schools on his top five. He went to Washington this weekend and is scheduled to visit Oregon State on Jan. 10, Oregon on Jan. 17 and possibly USC on Jan. 24.

■ St. Mary's Steve Murphy orally committed to attend the University of Nevada on a football scholarship.

The 5-foot-10, 180-pound Murphy played defensive back, quarterback, running back, wide receiver and strong safety for the Panthers this season, but said that he was recruited as a defensive back by the Wolf Pack, which finished 5-7 last season. Murphy said that he is also being considered as a punt returner.

Murphy is planning to major in sports broadcasting and was impressed with Nevada's journalism/sports broadcasting program.

"The school wasn't too small or too big — it was a perfect size," Murphy said. "The facilities were nice, and the field was great. The coaches and players were really cool."

Murphy visited the Nevada campus Dec. 6-8, and visited San Jose State last week.

JC FOOTBALL

Contra Costa College wide receiver Ricky Gatewood signed a letter of intent for a full-ride scholarship to Montana State.

"I felt comfortable when I went on the visit," Gatewood said. "I liked the atmosphere of the city, the quiet."

Gatewood, an El Cerrito High School graduate, caught 45 passes this season for 681 yards and seven touchdowns. The sophomore visited the Bozeman campus last weekend. Gatewood, a psychology major with a 3.3 grade point average, also considered Utah State, New Mexico State and Nevada.

## ACCAL NOTEBOOK

# Rains foil soccer plans

By Orlando Molina  
STAFF WRITER

With the recent downpours in the Bay Area postponing several soccer matches in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League just prior to the winter break, some teams see the extended layoff as a blessing while others take it as an added obstacle.

The last scheduled ACCAL matches were played on Dec. 17. Teams will not return to action until Jan. 7, giving the teams three weeks of down time from league play. So how will the teams cope?

El Cerrito High School boys soccer coach Fred Gonzalez said his team should have no problems adjusting to the effects of the inclement weather.

"We've had a lot of preseason games. We do what we have to do and we're able to stay sharp."

See ACCAL, Page 2



OAKLAND STROKES boys novice "A" boat competes in the River City Junior Fall Regatta in Sacramento on Dec. 7.

# Young rowers making mark with Oakland Strokes

Novice group of local team captures four places at the River City Junior Fall Regatta

## STAFF REPORT

At their classification suggestion, the Oakland Strokes boys novice crews put on a debut performance at the River City Junior Regatta in Sacramento, winning three of the four events in which they competed against teams from River City Rowing Club, Capital Crew, and the University of California-Davis.

In addition, the Strokes varsity boys won their event handsomely.

Field before the recent Pacific Northwest regatta conditions were usually smooth for the novices

in their first competition. The Strokes girls novice crew fielded an impressive eight boats — about half the field — with 72 new rowers and coxswains performing.

In the first heat, the Oakland Strokes "A" boat pulled into a first-place finish in 22 minutes, 30 seconds. Capital placed second in 22:36, followed by River City (23:35), Oakland Strokes "B" (24:04), Oakland Strokes "C" (26:46), Penn (27:45) and Oakland Strokes "D" (27:46).

The Strokes "A" boat was coxed by Erin Schmidt (San Ramon Valley High School-Danville), and rowed by Daniela Hamann-Nazaroff (Head-Royce), Josie Morgan (Oakland Tech), Carondelet's Taryn O'Connell and Christy McDonald, Joan Zovickian (Piedmont High), Liz Roszel (Miramonte-Orinda), Michele Santoro (College Park-Pleasant Hill), and Mariela Ellis (Academy-Lafayette).

Girls novice head coach Beth Anderson was pleased with the good start.

"This was a good morale-builder, but we've only just begun," Anderson said.

In the second heat, the Oakland Strokes "A" boat came placed third (23:49) with the Oakland Strokes "C" seventh (25:31), Oakland Strokes "B" eighth (28:04) and Oakland Strokes "D" ninth (29:35).

The boys novice team sent four boats to compete, two in each of two heats. In the first heat, the Oakland Strokes "A" boat finished first among all junior crews and fourth overall (19:48), close on the heels of three college-level novice crews from UC-Davis, UCD "A" (18:13), UCD "C" (18:30), and UCD "B" (19:03).

The Strokes were coxed by Zach Vlahos (Millennium), and rowed by Ben Weitzman (Academy), Dan O'Connell (De La Salle-Concord), Brandon Brooks (Academy), Denny Grebe (Arroyo), Sam Baum (Bentley), Charlie Fowler (Arrowsmith), Lief Andre (Miramonte), and Andrew Ratcliffe (Piedmont High).



OAKLAND STROKES girls novice "A" boat competes in the River City Junior Fall Regatta.

Following the Strokes were Capital "A" (20:12), River City (20:49), Capital "B" (21:32) and Oakland Strokes "B" (23:32).

The Strokes novice boys also fared well in the second heat,

with Oakland Strokes "A" rowing to a first place finish (20:37), ahead of UC Davis (22:39), Capital (23:16), River City (24:28), and Oakland Strokes "B" (29:16).

Head boys novice coach Alex Thomas was pleased with his oarsmen's performance, indicating that they are on the right track to success although they have much to learn.

While the River City Junior Fall Regatta is primarily a novice event, a few varsity boats competed. The Oakland strokes varsity boys team achieved first, with the fastest time of the day (17:37), followed by Capital "B" (17:49), Capital "A" (17:52), River City (17:56), Oakland Strokes "B" (18:33), and Oakland Strokes "C" (19:47).

The River City Junior Fall Regatta completed the Oakland Strokes fall racing schedule. The spring regatta season, which features 2,000-meter sprints, begins in early March for both varsity and novice teams.



DIABLO Valley Volleyball Club 15 Black captured the Northern California Volleyball Association boys 16 regional championship.

# Diablo Valley wins volleyball title

## STAFF REPORT

During the fall, the boys of Diablo Valley Volleyball Club 15 Black team enjoyed a most successful season. On Dec. 15, the DVVC 15 Black added another feather to its cap by winning the Northern California Volleyball Association boys 16s regional championship at the Bladium on Alameda Point.

During the two days of competition — which consisted of two rounds of pool play and a single-elimination championship tournament — the DVVC 15 Black compiled a 6-0 record.

The Diablo boys enjoyed 2-0 straight-games wins over both Fresno 16 Red in the semifinals and APEX 15 Gold of San Jose in the final. DVVC's defeated

APEX 25-18, 25-22.

The tournament completed an outstanding and memorable NCVA season for the Diablo 15 Black team, which also finished with the highest point total in league competition. DVVC won the league title by accumulating 447 of a possible 450 points. APEX 15 Gold finished second with 436 points.

After a holiday break, the DVVC 15 Black will return to the court. Next month, the team will head to Southern California for a Martin Luther King weekend tournament.

In addition, by winning the 16s Division of the NCVA, the DVVC 15 Black earned a berth in the national tournament in Phoenix next summer.

The DVVC 15 Black is made up of 15-year-old players from Oakland, Alameda, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Danville, Tracy, Martinez and Lafayette. Team members are Amel Young of Encinal High School, Peter Manguiat of Bishop O'Dowd, Adam Ungson of Las Lomas-Walnut Creek, Spencer Washom, Mason Cole and Mark Bauhs of San Ramon Valley-Danville, Justin Rita of Tracy High, Cory Jones and Tommy Crow of Northgate-Walnut Creek, Ryan Barry of De La Salle-Concord, Zach First of Martinez Junior High and Sam Brennan of Campolindo-Moraga.

The team is coached by Allan Muhlach, David First and Ashley Boss.



## ON DECK

## Prep boys basketball

■ **El Cerrito at Kennedy**, 7 p.m. tonight — The two nonleague rivals face off. The Gauchos are led by Jerry Owens-Murray, who was named the Most Valuable Player of the Red-Brown Tournament. Kennedy is paced by high-scoring Devin Peal.

## Prep girls basketball

■ **St. Mary's, El Cerrito in West Coast Jamboree**, Friday and Saturday — The Panthers will compete in the Emerald Division, while El Cerrito will play in the Topaz Division. If St. Mary's got past Vallejo on Thursday (result available at press time), the Panthers would play Friday against the winner of Thursday's The Bishop School-La Jolla and Reno matchup. If El Cerrito got past Castlemont on

Thursday, the Gauchos would face the winner of Thursday's Dixon-Liberty matchup on Friday.

## Prep boys soccer

■ **Winter Soccer Classic**, today and Saturday — Two local teams will be competing in this quality tournament. Today at Amador Valley, Berkeley faces Clayton Valley at 3:30 p.m. and St. Mary's matches up with Bishop O'Dowd at 5:30 p.m.

## Stars of the week

■ **Simon Knight**, St. Mary's boys basketball — Knight, a senior center, scored a game-high 28 points, including three 3-pointers, in the Panthers' 83-60 win over Woodside. He also produced 14 points, 10 rebounds and two steals in St. Mary's

65-60 victory over Hercules.

■ **Jerry Owens-Murray**, El Cerrito basketball — Owens-Murray produced 14 points in a 58-53 win over Skyline, then added 15 points in a 70-60 loss to McClymonds.

■ **Jacob Mayers**, Albany boys soccer — Mayers contributed two goals in a 5-4 loss to Berean Christian and two goals in a 4-1 win over John Swett.

■ **Dea Wallach**, Berkeley girls soccer — Wallach produced a hat trick in the Yellow Jackets' 8-0 win over Encinal.

■ **Melissa Stallworth**, El Cerrito girls basketball — Stallworth produced a game-high 14 points and five steals in a 59-27 victory over Tennyson.

## Prep

FROM PAGE 1

second quarter, only to see a different Cougar step up in each quarter on the way to the Albany victory on Dec. 19.

In the second quarter, sophomore forward Nick Goldenson came off the bench and scored nine points. The next quarter, it was Sam Laird who did the bulk of the damage, scoring 11 of his team-high 15 points.

The Oilers came out firing in the fourth quarter to eat away at the Cougars' 51-37 advantage. Richmond outscored Albany 20-11 in the fourth.

**Tamalpais 55, Albany 50:** With the game tied at 50 inside the final minute of play, the host Red-Tailed Hawks' Jay DeMaestri hit a desperation 3-pointer to beat the 35-second shot clock and broke the spirit of the upset-seeking Cougars on Dec. 21.

"It was nip and tuck the whole way," Albany coach Doug Kagawa said. "That shot was really back-breaker to us because we nearly had the turnover."

Tamalpais (8-0), which led by just one at halftime, increased its lead to 36-32 at the end of the third quarter. Albany (3-7) rallied back, following the lead of Danny Ho, who scored 12 of his team-high 18 points in the fourth quarter.

**El Cerrito 58, Skyline 53:** The Gauchos were masters of the free throw in the fourth quarter of their nonleague victory over Skyline on Dec. 20.

El Cerrito (5-2) sank 11 of their 15 free throws in the fourth quarter, holding off the Titans 19-16 in the quarter. Senior guard

Josh Harvey was 5-of-6 from the free-throw line in the quarter.

Jerry Owens-Murray led a balanced scoring effort by El Cerrito with 14 points. Russell Murray added 13 points for the Gauchos.

**St. Mary's 83, Woodside 60:** The Panthers (3-5) handed the visiting Wildcats (5-2) just their second loss of the season behind a 28-point outburst from Simon Knight in nonleague action. Knight hit three of St. Mary's eight 3-pointers on Dec. 20.

Balanced scoring and a long-lasting full-court press helped the Panthers overcome an early deficit against Woodside. Jordan Thurston nailed two 3-pointers and was 8-of-8 from the free-throw line en route to a 16-point night, and Larry Gurganious hit two more on his way to 14 points. Ed Wright added the other 3-pointer to his 12-point performance, as four Panthers scored in double figures on the night for struggling St. Mary's.

After falling to a 17-13 deficit in the first quarter, St. Mary's, Panthers posted 27 points in the second quarter to stake a 40-32 lead at halftime.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

**El Cerrito 59, Tennyson 27:** The host Gauchos (5-2) jumped out to a 39-10 halftime lead on their way to a dominant nonleague victory.

Melissa Stallworth scored 10 of her game-high 14 points in the first half, and added five steals. Analiese McGrew pulled down 10 rebounds and also produced five steals with her nine points. Teammate Aurianna Newman added 10 points.

## BOYS SOCCER

**Berean Christian 5, Albany**

## ACCAL

FROM PAGE 1

he said. "We were on a roll before the rain, but the kids take it in stride."

Gonzalez added that the Gauchos go through modified practices, working on passing drills and scrimmages on small patches of the field to keep their playing surface in good condition.

"The players have to adjust to the weather," Gonzalez said. "Other teams have to deal with it, too."

Indeed they do. The Berkeley boys team also has to deal with it, but it sees no particular disadvantage due to playing on an artificial surface. In fact, Yellow Jackets coach Janu Juarez said the team has been so busy, the layoff is welcome.

"The kids need a break," he said. "But we'll play rain or shine. That's what artificial turf is there for."

Although Juarez is gung-ho about having his team play rain or shine, he has allowed for his team to practice indoors from

time to time.

"Indoors we work on technical and defensive skills. It's a more technical game," he said. "But I prefer to practice outdoors."

Not everyone is as oblivious to the rain interruptions. The Hercules girls team does not see many positives from Mother Nature's latest drenching.

"It's made things very difficult," Titans coach Britany Edwards said. "I don't want them to get sick and we have very little daylight."

Edwards complained that the sporadic practice schedules along with the holiday season makes it hard to keep players motivated. She said she would like to move the team practices indoors, but gymnasium time is booked with basketball practices.

"I would go indoors. It can make you a faster player," he said. "You'll react quicker and it will sharpen your decision-making skills."

As far as the playing surface goes, Edwards said there is no advantage when the weather strikes. And a slick, muddy field is just something her girls will

have to live with if they want to play soccer effectively.

"The field is never the same two times in a row," she said. "I told them to get used to the wet field. Games won't be delayed because of a puddle. If they don't want to get dirty, then don't play."

## Basketball update

The Alameda girls are off to an 8-2 overall record, to start the week, following a 83-23 win over Irvington last Saturday in nonleague play.

Raquel Hyche led the Hornets with 17 points and three 3-pointers. Nicole Catania contributed 15 points. In all, five Hornets players finished in double figures.

The Hornets took command early, jumping out to a 39-6 lead after one quarter.

The Alameda boys did not fare as well, taking a 66-56 loss to Arroyo Valley-Nevada in the championship game of the Las Vegas Holiday Prep Classic's Copper Cup Division.

Alex Fleming led the Hornets with 13 points.

## BRIEFS

## Coaching openings

Bishop O'Dowd High School is looking for assistant coaches for softball, lacrosse and diving. All are spring sports. For more information, call athletic director Mike Bowler at 510-577-9100, ext. 401.

■ St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, 1011 Chestnut Street in Alameda, is seeking coaches in a variety of sports for its 2002-03 season.

Varsity coaches are needed for boys (spring) junior varsity baseball; girls (spring) junior varsity softball; and boys (spring) varsity tennis.

For more information, call athletic director Dan Curry at 510-814-7146. Resumes or inquiries may be faxed to 510-523-6967.

## Baseball clinics/camp

The Cal coaching staff will give hitting, pitching and catching clinics for players 9-17, Dec. 28-29. The clinics will take place on the Cal campus. Players may register online at [www.calbears.com](http://www.calbears.com) or [www.oski.org](http://www.oski.org). Call 510-643-2267 for a brochure.

■ Bishop O'Dowd High School coach Joel Kaufman, his staff and his players, will hold the annual Holiday O'Dowd Dragons Baseball Camp, Jan. 3-4. The two-day camp is designed for players 7-15 looking to prepare for baseball tryouts.

The camp costs \$95 and includes six hours of instruction, a Dragons T-shirt, poster and other items. Information and online signups are available at [www.eteamz.com/dragons](http://www.eteamz.com/dragons).

■ The Encinal Baseball Camp will take place from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Encinal High School's Willie Stargell Field on Saturday, Jan. 25.

The camp is open to players 9-14 and covers throwing, base running, hitting and bunting, and infield and outfield play. Among the guests will be former Jets Jimmy Rollins (now with the Philadelphia Phillies) and Dontrelle Willis (in the Florida Marlins organization). Also present will be Jethro McIntyre of the Major League Scouting Bureau.

Cost is \$75. Call Encinal baseball coach Jim Saunders at 510-749-9458, 510-502-0567 or 925-829-6905.

■ Strike Three Pitching Academy will hold its 2003 baseball clinic on Saturday, Jan. 4, and Saturday, Jan. 18 at the Piedmont High softball field.

The sessions are divided based upon age levels. Players ages 7-10 may register for Session I, which will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Session II, on Jan. 18, is for players ages 11-14 and will be held from 1-4 p.m.

The sessions will be run by former UC-Riverside All-American Frank Potestio, who also played six years in the Chicago White Sox, St. Louis and San Francisco organizations.

The cost is \$75 for one session and \$135 for both sessions. For applications and further information, contact Potestio at 510-317-0851.

## Umpiring clinic

The Professional Officiating Baseball Umpires Clinic will take place, rain

or shine, from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at Deer Valley High School on Saturday, Feb. 1. The rules course as well as umpire plate and base mechanics cost \$75.

Call Professional Officiating Mark Beller at 925-850-1234, contact him by e-mail at [theumps@pacbell.net](mailto:theumps@pacbell.net).

## Rowing

The Oakland Stroke Club, the premier junior rowing club in the nation, giving high school and girls opportunities to compete at club, national and international level, the club via e-mail at [memberships@oakclub.org](mailto:memberships@oakclub.org).

## Golf

The Galbraith Junior Golf is open to players 7-18 learning the rules of golf every Saturday.

The program runs from 9 a.m. at Lake Chabot Golf Course every Saturday.

Galbraith Junior Golf is the business community, land, Alameda, Berkeley, Piedmont and San Francisco involved through group-ship sponsorships.

For more information, contact coordinator Clarence Saem at 510-569-5682, or [Saem@oakclub.org](mailto:Saem@oakclub.org).

**Ski & Snowboard RENTALS**  
LARGEST FLEET IN THE BAY AREA  
ADULTS & KIDS! ALL NEW DEMOS!  
**SALOMON**  
RENTAL FLEET  
OVER 3000 BOARDS & SKIS  
**ANY MOUNTAIN**  
SKI • SNOWBOARD • OUTDOOR GEAR

Dublin (925) 875-1115	Concord (925) 674-0174	Berkeley (510) 665-3939	San Francisco (415) 465-1115
--------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------------

**HILLS NEWSPAPERS AUTO PLUS**

*Auto Plus*  
Classic Classics: MGB still going strong [D3]  
Must gas-saving gadgets fall short of toucan claims  
Acura RSX makes shifting much more  
Hills Auto Direct

Call 1-800-888-1111

Please  
recycle this  
newspaper

## DONATE YOUR VEHICLE TO



Child Abuse Prevention Council

Help Save  
a Child's Life

1-877-700-GIVE



[www.carsforcharities.com](http://www.carsforcharities.com)

# The new AMC Bay Street 16 is Now Open.

Stadium Seating • 16 Wall-to-Wall Screens • Digital Surround Sound



Advance ticketing available at  
[MovieWatcher.com](http://MovieWatcher.com)  
or 510-457-4262

**AMC**  
THEATRES  
Bay Street 16  
in Emeryville

I-80, Ashby Exit to  
Shellmound Street in Emeryville

Now Playing  
Catch Me If You Can • Antwone Fisher  
Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers  
Adaptation • Two Weeks Notice  
Evelyn • Gangs of New York  
The Wild Thornberrys Movie



Your Most Rewarding Moviegoing Experience  
Start earning Free Popcorn. Free Soft Drinks.  
Free Movies and more.  
Enroll instantly at the theatre (limited)

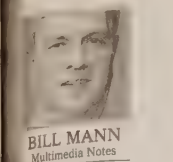
Student discount available with valid student ID

Reduced parking \$1.00 for  
four hours with AMC validation

HILLS NEWS



# Arts



**BILL MANN**  
Multimedia Notes

## PG&E puts good face on things

**WHEN:** In 2001, PG&E actually called a press conference (I heard it on KCBS) to discourage customers from calling in when their power goes out, saying it unnecessarily overloads their phone system.

**Now:** PG&E runs ads on local radio stations giving out toll-free numbers and encouraging customers to call when their power goes out.

**Then:** PG&E has just installed voice mail, but you can occasionally get a human operator when it's overloaded. You can't get signals.

**Now:** PG&E has a much better voice-mail system. Very few signals, and you sometimes get gib messages on the 800 line about the estimated time power will be back like 1:09 p.m.

**Then:** The cynicism, but do precise times look like a joke to you? It appears that PG&E has gotten much smarter, as it cuts back repair crews that takes longer to restore power, on how to keep the in-the-dark public off the backs. After all, if you say something as precise as 1:09, you must really be on top of the situation. Plus, they've got up their PR operation.

**Now:** NOT one of those perenial PG&E bashers. In fact, I've PG&E stock for years. Recent evidence suggests that PG&E has infiltrated our local company big-time.

**Then:** I was writing this trying to sound like an incoming storm. Losing PG&E as inconvenient as it is, I don't want to live when you have most parts of Northern California. But being lied to — PG&E — about when power is coming back on another matter. So is getting PG&E later than you used to.

**Now:** In our genetic makeup to our system up and running PG&E's earnest-looking PR said on KTVU. But it's also PG&E's genetic makeup to cut costs on repair crews to take an eight-hour break, the workers' union that this was PG&E's decision to take the workers', something PG&E said confirmed.

**Then:** I live for this — getting power back on in bad weather. For us, this is game of a tired-looking PG&E employee told me. "I don't usually want the eight hours off. I want the overtime."

**Now:** The Press-Democrat also reported that 19 independent repair crews who had come to the North Coast to bolster PG&E's crews had walked off the job when they learned of PG&E's mandated 16-hour day limits, which significantly trimmed PG&E's overtime costs. In Sonoma County, PG&E's New York Times-owned PG&E reported, the number of PG&E workers at PG&E has been cut by half. It's hard not to see the same thing hasn't happened in the East Bay.

**Then:** In the past storms, Eric Wolfe told the Santa Rosa Press-Democrat, "you would find many instances of people working more than 16 hours. It would just mean more money." But that was PG&E's now.

**Now:** Residents in Sebastopol and Eureka, KTVU and other local TV stations reported recently that PG&E delays in restoring their power — much longer delays than after similar storms in the past — were interviewed fumed.

**Then:** The union says it now represents 12,000 workers at PG&E compared to 17,000 just a year ago. But I'll bet the utility union more PR people, far more advertising, and heftier costlier voice-mail systems.

**Comments?** E-mail me at [Newsmann@sonic.net](mailto:Newsmann@sonic.net)



**BLUES AND JAZZ:** singer Sandra Reaves-Phillips opens a limited run of "The Late Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz." tonight at San Francisco's Geary Theatre, 415 Geary St.

## Alternatives to seasonal stage standards

**YESTERDAY WAS THE DAY** for reveling in the things you got for Christmas. Today — and it makes me feel sort of like Scrooge to even think this — is a time for secretly muttering about the things you didn't get.

The book, the sweater, the bracelet you wanted, even a new car if you can believe some of those TV commercials — somebody didn't take a hint, or forgot or simply couldn't afford it.

Cheer up! Count your blessings. Sunny Tiny Tim now speaking. Here are some other things you didn't get.

This being a theater column, this is a partial list of Christmas plays that we could have gotten on East Bay stages (but didn't) instead of the usual fare of "Nutcracker," "A Christmas Carol" (traditional version) and other evergreens of the holiday season.

Storylines are excerpted from the catalogs of Samuel French, Inc., and Dramatists Play Service Inc., and not based on personal experience.

**WE DIDN'T GET TO SEE:** "A Christmas Carol" by Doris Baizley is an adaptation with



**JACK TUCKER**  
Community Theater

music of the classic story, initially produced several years ago by the Mark Taper Forum.

A company of traveling players is about to enact the Dickens story. An on-stage trunk of supplies opens and out spills actors, clowns, props, etc. The gruff stage manager and prop boy check the props, which are shabby and third-rate. But the troupe improvises and begins to create a magical world of make-believe.

Then calamity strikes. The company discovers the actors playing Scrooge and Tiny Tim have abandoned the tour. But the show must go on. The prop boy eagerly volunteers to play Tim. The cynical stage manager has to be forcibly drafted to play the old miser.

See **THEATER**, Page C5

## Freight hosts high and lonesome New Year's

By **Brian Kluepfel**  
CORRESPONDENT

An old Gibson mandolin of Butch Waller's was just four serial numbers from bluegrass legend Bill Monroe's. "If human beings had serial numbers like mandolins, I don't think Butch's would be far from Bills, either," bluegrass musician Sandy Rothman wrote in the liner notes to "Golden Gate Promenade," Waller's 1999 solo disc.

Rarely has an art form had such a one-to-one identification with a single person as bluegrass has with the late Monroe. The amalgamation of African-American blues and Scots-Irish fiddle was named for Monroe's Bluegrass Boys, and the Kentucky patriarch shared a special relationship with Waller.

Although bluegrass never had an East Coast/West Coast rivalry, the music took longer to nurture further from its Appalachian source. Luckily, Waller's interest in the genre coincided with its nationwide burgeoning in the early 1960s.

Waller gleaned all he could from touring acts like Monroe and the Osborne Brothers. He formed the Pine Valley Boys with Berkeley native Herb Peterson in 1962, and then High Country in 1968, a band that continues to this day.

High Country, in fact, was the



**HIGH COUNTRY** with Butch Waller (left, with mandolin) comes to Freight & Salvage on Dec. 31.

### CONCERT

**WHAT:** High Country's bluegrass New Year's Eve celebration  
**WHERE:** Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison St. (at San Pablo) Berkeley  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31  
**TICKETS:** [www.thefreight.org](http://www.thefreight.org)

first West Coast group to be invited to Monroe's Bean Blossom Festival in the 1970s. Through seven albums they have become recognized as worthy bearers of

the bluegrass standard, as both performers and songwriters.

"We write most of our own material, and our covers tend to be bluegrass standards," said Waller. One of the few non-originals on their most recent disc, The Earthquake, is the well-known "Wayfaring Stranger," given a lilting keen by fiddler/vocalist Tom Bekeny. Banjo player Larry Cohea, a native of Springfield, Tenn., brings a bit more of the Lester Flatt/Earl Scruggs and Stanley Brothers flavor to the mix.

Most other numbers are com-

posed by Waller or guitarist Jim Mintun, but the other band members are writers in their own regard. Bassist Glenn Dauphin has had one of his compositions recorded by legendary Del McCoury, and other band compositions have been covered by Hot Rize and local dobro whiz Sally Van Meter.

Waller got closer to the source of his inspiration for the Golden Gate Promenade album, a strictly instrumental recording that features four Bill Monroe tunes alongside five Waller originals. Reaching further back into the lexicon, the recording also features the Irish standards "Danny Boy" and "When We Were Young, Maggie."

"My brother Bob and I are Kennedys on our mom's side," said Waller. The mandolin-led rendition of "Danny Boy" was a hit at the Athy (Ireland) Bluegrass Festival, he said. The other tune has a more local connection: The Waller brothers attended St. Mary's parochial school in Berkeley, and Butch said that when the Irish nuns weren't trying to keep him in line, they taught him "Maggie."

A hallmark of bluegrass is its strong family connections, from the Osborne Brothers to the Louvin Brothers to Del McCoury's

See **BLUEGRASS**, Page C5

## Tommy Davidson will always be a stand-up guy

■ But the 'In Living Color' alum is enjoying the mark he's making in other areas of his career

By **Paul Freeman**  
CORRESPONDENT

Talk about multitasking — funny guy Tommy Davidson, who headlines the 13th annual Black Comedy Explosion on New Year's Eve at Oakland's Paramount Theatre, has gained fame as an original cast member of "In Living Color." As an actor, he's been seen in "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls," "Strictly Business," "Woo," "Juwanna Mann," "Bamboozled" and, of course, "Boozy Call."

He also adds humor to "The Fox NFL Show" on Saturday nights. That's too young for "Boozy Call" can catch his voice in the Disney Channel's animated series "The Proud Family."

Davidson says he looks forward to his Paramount gig.

"I haven't done a show like this in a while," he says, "because I usually do the club circuits. It's a different atmosphere. But really, it's just another muscle. You

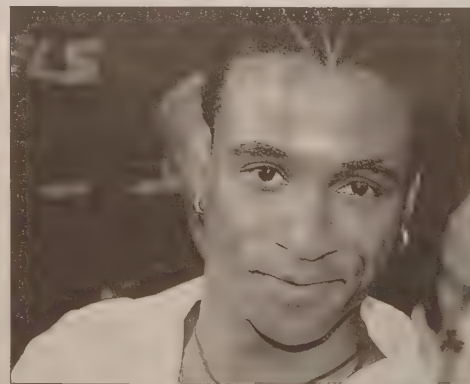
### PREVIEW

■ **WHAT:** The Black Comedy Explosion, featuring Tommy Davidson, Sheryl Underwood, Alex Thomas  
■ **WHEN:** 11 p.m. Tuesday  
■ **WHERE:** Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland  
■ **HOW MUCH:** \$42.50-\$55.50 advance/\$47.50-\$60.50 day of show  
■ **CONTACT:** 925-685-8497, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

gotta know how to do it, to do it. I had a whole phase of my career opening up for concerts and stuff where I did that. Then I was on a 'Def Jam' tour, a 'Kings of Comedy' tour, as well as working with Chris Rock, Chris Tucker, so I have extensive experience in theaters."

Originally from Washington, D.C., he began performing at local D.C. talent showcases. He was spotted by concert promoters who booked him as the opening act for such headliners as Luther Vandross, Patti LaBelle and Kenny G.

Davidson enjoyed opening for



THORSTEN HEINZE/ABACA PRESS

**READY TO EXPLODE:** Tommy Davidson will bring his brand of comedy to Oakland on New Year's Eve.

them. "It's actually easier, because you're the only comedian of the night. They want to hear everything you've got to say. There's only so many subjects you can touch on in comedy, so if 10 comics go on before you, you're like, 'Well, what am I going to talk about?'"

The challenge is part of the job, he says. "There's friendly competition amongst comics. Everybody keeps me honest. Jamie Foxx, Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence — they keep me on my game."

See **TOMMY**, Page C5

### EVENTS

#### COMEDY

**KIMBALL'S EAST** — "Live Comedy," Thursdays, 7 p.m.  
\$10 cover. Emerybay Public Market, 5800 Shellmound St., Emeryville. 510-658-2555, 510-762-BASS or [www.kimball.com](http://www.kimball.com)

**PARAMOUNT THEATRE** — "13th Annual New Year's Eve Black Comedy Explosion" with Tommy Davidson, Sheryl Underwood, Alex Thomas, Guy Torry, Dec. 31, 11 p.m.  
\$42.50 to \$55.50. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-465-6400 or [www.paramounttheatre.com](http://www.paramounttheatre.com)

#### STAGE

**BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE** — **THE RODA THEATRE** — "Haroun and the Sea of Stories" by Salman Rushdie, through Jan. 7. The extraordinary adventures of a young boy on a quest to help his father, a famed storyteller who has lost the ability to tell stories. Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Thursday and Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$10 to \$54

\$42 to \$54; students and seniors half-off; \$16 under age 30. 2015 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-647-2949, 888-4BRTIX or [www.berkeleyrep.org](http://www.berkeleyrep.org)  
**SHOTGUN THEATRE** — "The Play About the Baby" by Edward Albee, closing Dec. 28. A mysterious Man and Woman visit a young couple who may or may not have had a baby, and all strands of reality unravel.  
\$18 general; \$12 seniors and students. \$10 Thursdays. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 7 p.m. La Val's Subterranean, 1834 Euclid, Berkeley. 510-704-8210 or [www.shotgunplayers.org](http://www.shotgunplayers.org)

#### POPULAR MUSIC

**ASHKENAZ** — Ze Manel, Dec. 27, 9:30 p.m. \$12

Beau Soleil, Dec. 28, 9:30 p.m. \$17  
Gerry Tenny and California Klezmer, Dec. 29, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 to \$5.

"New Year's Eve Balkan Bash" with Edessa, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. \$17  
All ages. Free admission for children 12 and under. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or [www.ashkenaz.com](http://www.ashkenaz.com)

**BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH** — Mondays. The Steve Gannon Band, Mz Dee. \$4

For ages 18 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-0888

**CATO'S ALE HOUSE** — The Lost Trio, Dec. 29.

Free. Music from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3691 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-3349 or [www.mecato.com](http://www.mecato.com)

**FREIGHT AND SALVAGE** — "Slammin'" with Keith Trier, Vicki Randle, Joey Blake, Destini, Steve Hogan and Kenny Washington, Dec. 28. \$15.50 to \$16.50

The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience, Dec. 29, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$19.50 to \$20.50

High Country, Dec. 31. \$19.50 to \$20.50

"Great Night of Soul Poetry" with Dan and Dale Zola, Jan. 3. \$15.50 to \$16.50

Bluegrass Intentions, Jan. 4. \$16.50 to \$17.50

Rick Shea and Brantley Kearns, Jan. 5. \$15.50 to \$16.50

Music starts at 8 p.m. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-548-1761 or 510-762-BASS or [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)

**OAKLAND ARENA** — The Other Ones, Medeski Martin and Wood, Hot Tuna Acoustic, Dec. 31, 6:30 p.m.

\$75. Hegenberg Road and Interstate 880, Oakland. 925-762-2277, 510-762-2277, 415-478-2277, 408-998-2277, 650-478-2277, 916-766-2277, 707-546-2277 or tickets.com

**STARRY PLOUGH PUB** — Don Gallardo, Emily Kurn, Dec. 28. \$5.

George Pedersen and the Red Varnets, Magic City Chamber of Commerce, Dec. 31, 9:30 p.m. \$7.

7th Direction, Purple Martin, Jan. 2. \$5. Sweetness, Meriweather, Ben Weaver, Jan. 3. \$5.

Chango Malo, The Slappin' Pistons, Roma 79, Jan. 4. \$5.

Sundays: The Starry Irish Music Session. Sliding scale.

Mondays, Dance Class and Ceili. Free.

Free. For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082.

**TRADER VIC'S EMERYVILLE** — Jazz at 5, ongoing. With Claudio Medeiros and Carlos Oliveira.

No cover. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Trader Vic's Emeryville, 9 Anchor Drive, Emeryville. 510-653-3400.

**YOSHIS** — The Taj Mahal Trio, through Dec. 29. \$22 to \$26.

The Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Band, Jan. 1 through Jan. 5. \$20 to \$24.

Sunday matinees are \$5 per child and \$10 per adult with one child. Shows are Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. 510-238-9200 or [www.yoshis.com](http://www.yoshis.com) or [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com)

**DANCE**

**EAGLES HALL ZYDECO CAJUN DANCES** — Dance lesson, 8 p.m.; concert and dance, 9 p.m. \$11 to \$13. 2305 Alameda Ave., Alameda. 415-285-6285 or [rdclsimone.home.mind.spring.com](mailto:rdclsimone.home.mind.spring.com); [Eagles/content-eagles.html](http://Eagles/content-eagles.html)

**STARRY PLOUGH PUB** — "Dance Class & Ceili," Mondays, 7 p.m. Traditional Irish music and dance.

"The Starry Session," Sundays, 8 p.m. Irish traditional music and song led by Shay Black. Sliding scale.

For age 21 and over. Dance lesson at 7

See **EVENTS**, Page C5







EVENTS

**THE PAGE C3**  
 music at 9 p.m. 3101 Shattuck  
 Berkeley, 510-841-2082.

**THE MUSEUMS**  
**AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM AND**  
**LIBRARY** — Golden Road to Free-  
 dom: The African Legacy in California,  
 1900-1960, ongoing. An exhibit fo-  
 cusing on the role that people of  
 African descent played in later expedi-  
 tionary settlements before the an-  
 nihilation of California.

**West Oakland Senior Citizen Oral**  
**History Project**, ongoing. This visual  
 exhibit captures the history of  
 West Oakland's senior treat-  
 ment. Featured are 51 black-and-  
 white photographs and recorded con-  
 versations, including ones by Dr.  
 Martin Luther King Jr., Ruth Beckford,  
 Alvin Martin, and Alonzo Fields.

**Wednesday through Saturday, noon to**  
**5 p.m. Miller-Knox Regional**  
**Shoreline, 900-A Dornan Drive, Point**  
**Richmond, 510-234-4884 or**  
**www.gsmrm.org.**

**MAGNES MUSEUM** — "Hidden in the  
 Walls: The Time Capsule from San  
 Francisco's Lost Sanctuary," through  
 Feb. 16. Inspired by a recent discovery  
 of a time capsule, the exhibition reveals  
 the untold story of a pioneer congrega-  
 tion and the spirit of a changing city.

**"Stephanie Snyder: Hamak (The**  
**Place)," through Feb. 16. A mixed-me-**  
**dia installation examining the intersec-**  
**tion of sacred space, religious prac-**  
**tice and historical memory.**

**"Sharing the Screen: Israelis and**  
**Palestinians in the San Francisco Jewish**  
**Film Festival," through Feb. 16. A cin-**  
**ematic exhibition featuring a dozen**  
**film excerpts exploring Jewish-Arab**  
**and Israeli-Palestinian themes.**

**SECOND SUNDAYS** — A series of pro-  
 grams that begin at 2 p.m. Free with  
 museum admission. Jan. 12: Family  
 Program: Making History Come Alive.

**\$4 adults; \$3 students and seniors; chil-**  
**dren under 12 free. Monday through**  
**Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10**

rate layouts, as well as narrow gauge  
 and trolley lines. Of special interest is  
 the Tehachapi Pass and Loop on the  
 N scale layout, showing how the multi-  
 engine trains traverse the gorges and  
 tunnels, passing over themselves  
 to gain altitude to cross Tehachapi  
 Summit just east of Bakersfield. In ad-  
 dition the layouts include such famous  
 railroad landmarks as Niles Canyon,  
 Donner Pass, and the Oakland Mole  
 where transcontinental passengers  
 were ferried across the Bay from their  
 arriving trains. Displays are built and  
 operated by the East Bay Model En-  
 gineers Society. \$3 general; \$2 seniors  
 and children under age 12; \$7 family  
 maximum. Saturday and Sunday,  
 noon to 5 p.m. Miller-Knox Regional  
 Shoreline, 900-A Dornan Drive, Point  
 Richmond. 510-234-4884 or  
 www.gsmrm.org.

**See EVENTS, Page C6**

Bluegrass

**THE PAGE C3**  
 ment band featuring his two  
 sons. It should also be noted that  
 Beverly Brothers hail from  
 bluegrass territory in Ken-  
 tucky and their father, Ike, was  
 a well-known player. So perhaps  
 it's no surprise when High  
 Country welcomed guitarist/voc-  
 alist Bob Waller into the fold last  
 year.

It's nothing new, really. My  
 father and I have been singing  
 together for 35 years," said Butch  
 Waller of High Country's newest  
 member.

After the title of their latest  
 inspired by the 1989 Loma  
 (a seismic shaker) to the  
 banding process, Waller and  
 High Country keep it local. Dix  
 and Jim Nunally, who will  
 be in the High Country New  
 Year's Eve show at the Freight  
 Salvage on Wednesday,  
 will be in the production/eng-  
 ineering phase of both "The  
 Rehearsal" and "Golden Gate

Promenade" albums, which in  
 addition to High Country mem-  
 bers enlist the services of a local  
 bluegrass who's who, including  
 Sally Van Meter, Kathy Kallick  
 and Laurie Lewis.

Thus California, known for its  
 avocados and oranges, has also  
 become a first-rate exporter of  
 bluegrass. Much of this is attrib-  
 utable to Waller and others who  
 caught the bluegrass bug four  
 decades ago and refused to let  
 go.

"There are only a few man-  
 dolin players in the world who  
 have taken the inspiration from  
 Monroe and made it their own,  
 and Butch Waller is in that num-  
 ber," said Sandy Rothman. "In all  
 the years I've known him, he has-  
 n't changed from his original vi-  
 sion. Inspiration passed from one  
 hand to another, and keeps car-  
 rying on."

**Brian Kluepfel is a freelance**  
**journalist who has lived in the**  
**'burbs, the Bronx, Bolivia, and**  
**Berkeley. He can be reached at**  
**bkluepfel@hotmail.com.**

cause he thought I was funny. I  
 watched Eddie Murphy. I  
 watched Richard Pryor. And I  
 thought both of them were bril-  
 liant. But I never thought about  
 doing that stuff.

"But sure enough, once I  
 started busting my ass, working  
 hard at it, the next thing you  
 know, I was on their level. The  
 next thing you know, I was be-  
 yond. Now I'm my own person.  
 I have my own name. It's like,  
 there's Eddie Murphy; there's  
 Richard Pryor; then there's me."

Like Murphy and Pryor,  
 Davidson is making his mark on  
 the big screen. "I love all the ac-  
 colades that come out of it. More  
 people get to see the movie than  
 a comedy show."

He's weighing potential pro-  
 jects. "We're trying to get the  
 right movie. I love all genres. I'd  
 love to do something like 'Bad  
 Boys.' But it doesn't matter, just  
 as long as it's good. I like sci-fi,  
 horror, comedy, drama. I'd like  
 to do the Sam Cooke story, the  
 Sammy Davis Jr. story. There's  
 a wish list. Just give me a good  
 script. Have talent, will do."

He'll never give up stand-up,  
 however. "I wouldn't be happy.  
 I like making people laugh. And  
 me laughing, it brings me up, too.  
 I can't get in a bad mood, hardy.  
 For those who can do it, they're  
 blessed. For those who are recog-  
 nized in it, they're even more  
 blessed. I can go into a comedy  
 club, it doesn't matter what's go-  
 ing on in my life, from the word  
 'hello,' I forget about everything.  
 A hundred percent of the time,  
 every time, I feel better, no mat-  
 ter what I'm going through."

**EVERY FRIDAY**  
**HILLS**  
**Hometown Classifieds**  
 (All Ads originated from a (510) area code)  
 Every Friday, you'll find hometown jobs, merchandise,  
 real estate and more - all from 510 area code  
 neighborhoods and businesses.

Theater

FROM PAGE C3

The rag-tag troupe proceeds  
 to act out the story, creating  
 fog, snow, fire and ghosts  
 through mime. In time, this  
 sorry bunch of seedy thespians  
 becomes the characters of the  
 story, and are pulled miracu-  
 lously into the life of Ebenezer  
 Scrooge. The Christmas spirit  
 works its magic and warms the  
 heart of Scrooge as well as the  
 old stage manager. (Dramatist  
 Play Service, Inc.)

Actually, this sounds like a  
 lot of fun.

**STILL IN SANTA'S PACK:**  
 Another play we didn't get for  
 Christmas is "Second Marriage  
 of Santa Claus" by John Kirk-  
 patrick.

At curtain rise we meet a  
 mother whose nerves are  
 frayed and temper is rising by  
 the senseless barter and ex-  
 change of presents. A father  
 grows about the high cost of  
 all things Yuletide. Daughter  
 Emmy's romance is all but  
 wrecked by the misdirected  
 generosity of her aunt.  
 "Only the young man and

Emmy seem to know what  
 Christmas is really for, and  
 only when Emmy elopes with  
 Santa Claus are we given some  
 hope commercialism may  
 someday cease to surround the  
 birthday of Jesus." (Samuel  
 French, Inc.)

**MAYBE NEXT CHRIST-**  
**MAS:** Finally, we didn't get for  
 Christmas "The Salvation of  
 Iggy Scrooge." The musical's  
 book is by Larry Larsen and  
 Levi Lee. Music by Edd Key.  
 Okay passengers. Seat belts  
 fastened? Trays in the upright  
 position? Here we go:

Ebenezer is a burned-out  
 misanthropic superster in this  
 version. It's New Year's Eve  
 and he's snarling. Suddenly up  
 pops a top-of-the-charts gaggle  
 of ghosts. We're talking leg-  
 ends, folks.

There's Buddy Holly. Bob  
 Marley. King Elvis. They've  
 come to boogie with Iggy and  
 set his warped values straight.

Let's let the Samuel French,  
 Inc., catalog description take it  
 from there:  
 "The rock icons cook up a  
 jambalaya of reggae, Cajun,  
 rockabilly and heavy-metal  
 numbers in this inventive

Christmas offering that rever-  
 berates with saucy lampoonery,  
 show-stopping tunes and char-  
 acters that never occurred to  
 Dickens."

Even the rock-challenged  
 might get a metallic bang out  
 of this one.

Eggnog, anyone?  
**BACK TO PLANET**  
**EARTH:** That last item pro-  
 vides a neat segue into the  
 here-and-now reality of Planet  
 Earth.

Sandra Reaves-Phillips, ac-  
 claimed blues and jazz singer,  
 opens a limited run tonight at  
 San Francisco's Geary Theatre,  
 415 Geary St., of "The Late  
 Great Ladies of Blues and  
 Jazz."

Accompanied by her "All-  
 Star Jazz Band," Reaves-  
 Phillips recreates the vocal  
 styles and star presence of  
 such legends as Billie Holiday,  
 Bessie Smith, Dinah Washing-  
 ton, Ma Rainey, Ethel Waters  
 and Mahalia Jackson.

Here's a sample of tunes in  
 this cavalcade through 70 years  
 of musical history and night-  
 club fashions. Each characteri-  
 zation includes several selec-  
 tions:

"Strut Miss Lizzie" (Ma  
 Rainey), "Kitchen Man"  
 (Smith), "His Eye Is On the  
 Sparrow" (Waters), "Solitude"  
 (Holiday), "Trouble, Trouble"  
 (Washington) and a testimonial  
 as Mahalia Jackson.

This is a presentation of the  
 American Conservatory The-  
 atre by arrangement with  
 Arthur Shafman International,  
 Ltd.

Showtime tonight and Sat-  
 urday and Dec. 31 is 9 p.m.  
 Show starts at 8 p.m. on Dec.  
 29 and 30.

Tickets for "The Late Great  
 Ladies of Blues and Jazz"  
 range from \$14 to \$50. They  
 can be purchased at the A.C.T.  
 box office, 415-749-2228, or on-  
 line at www.act-sf.org.

Send items of interest to Jack  
 Tucker c/o 4301 Lakeside Drive,  
 Richmond, CA, 94806; fax to  
 510-262-2776; e-mail to  
 jtucker@cttimes.com, or call  
 510-262-2768. Include a contact  
 name and number.

Reviews

FROM PAGE C4

second installment of J.K. Rowling's  
 Harry Potter series is bound to make  
 a few adults restless. School is back  
 in session and dark forces are brew-  
 ing under Hogwarts, with a plan for  
 ethnic cleansing of any wizards and  
 witches who have Muggle blood.  
 Witches like — shudder —  
 Hermione. Harry must save the day.  
 As charming and well-cast as the first  
 movie, with some spiffy special ef-  
 fects, but less thrilling by virtue of its  
 familiarity, not to mention its refusal  
 to end. — M. Pols. (PG: scary mo-  
 ments, some creature violence and  
 mild language.) 2 hours, 40 minutes.  
**B**

**"THE HOT CHICK":** There's abso-  
 lutely nothing new in this movie,  
 which follows a cross-dressing for-  
 mula that comedies have used for  
 centuries. This time, the story fo-  
 cuses on Jessica (Rachel McAdams),  
 a perky popular cheerleader with a  
 mean streak. She acquires a pair of  
 earrings with magical powers, and  
 when she loses one of them, it's  
 found by a thirtysomething criminal  
 (Rob Schneider). Overnight, the ear-  
 rings cause the two characters to  
 change bodies. So Jessica wakes up  
 in her own bedroom, but in Schnei-  
 der's body, and vice versa. Most of  
 the action focuses on Jessica's per-  
 sonality, which inhabits the Schnei-  
 der body, allowing the comedian to  
 pretend to be a girl. Unfortunately,  
 though, it's not that funny. — C. Ealy.  
 (PG-13: sexual, drug references,  
 language, crude humor) 1 hour, 41  
 minutes. **D+**

**"JACKASS: THE MOVIE":** The gross  
 and raunchy MTV show makes its  
 big screen debut with Johnny  
 Knoxville and company doing point-  
 less stunts that usually involved bodi-  
 ly injury. It's crude, obnoxious and  
 exactly what you'd expect. — S. Nor-  
 man-Culp. (R: dangerous sometimes  
 extremely crude stunts, language  
 and nudity.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. **D**

**"THE LAST KISS" ("L'Ultimo**  
**Bacio"):** This lively Italian movie is  
 being billed as a romantic comedy.  
 Harumph. There's certainly romance,  
 and some comedy, but this is closer  
 to a brutal war movie, set within the  
 battle of the sexes. The soldiers on  
 these front lines are a group of  
 young marrieds and almost marrieds,  
 doing hand-to-hand combat over  
 issues of commitment, fidelity and  
 responsibility. Our so-called 29-year-old  
 hero, Stefano, is bored with his preg-  
 nant girlfriend, so he starts a flirta-  
 tion with a luscious but vapid high school  
 student. Writer/director Gabriele Muc-  
 cino's take on relationships is acute  
 and refreshingly honest, but so  
 scathing that it may make most of  
 the audience feel like kissing off dat-  
 ing altogether. — M. Pols. (R: lan-  
 guage, sexuality and some drug  
 use.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. (In Italian,  
 with English subtitles.) **B**

**"THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE**  
**TWO TOWERS":** The second instal-  
 lment of director Peter Jackson's big  
 screen adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's  
 great trilogy is as intoxicating as last  
 year's "Fellowship." The fellowship is  
 broken into groups of three, and  
 Jackson expertly weaves together  
 their three distinct journeys. He takes  
 as his centerpiece a scene Tolkien  
 devoted only a dozen or so pages to,  
 the battle to defend Helm's Deep,

and it's a fantastic choice, one of the  
 most thrilling battle scenes ever  
 filmed. The special effects, most  
 notably the computer-generated crea-  
 ture Gollum (voice and movements  
 by Andy Serkis) are nifty, with the un-  
 fortunate exemption of the Ents, who  
 look a bit too much like Gumby with  
 bark. This will probably only bother  
 the purest of Tolkien purists. Now we  
 have to wait another year for the final  
 installment. Sigh. — M. Pols. (PG-13:  
 epic battle sequences and scary im-  
 ages.) 2 hours, 59 minutes. **A-**

**"MAID IN MANHATTAN":** One of  
 those romantic comedies where it is  
 a given one lover will turn to the  
 other at some point and say with  
 shocked disbelief, "Is this true?"  
 Hard to worry much, though, when  
 our heroine Marisa's (Jennifer Lopez)  
 big secret is that she's a hotel maid,  
 an industrious, clever and ambitious  
 service industry employee, instead of  
 a rich dilettante. The deluded objec-  
 t of her affection is blue-blood politi-  
 cian Chris (Ralph Fiennes) whose  
 most appealing feature is the love he  
 displays for his dog. As Cinderella  
 stories go, this one has its charms —  
 Stanley Tucci's sass as Chris's cam-  
 paign manager is among them —  
 but director Wayne Wang lets it col-  
 lapse into a dismal heap at the end.  
 How did press conferences come to  
 be the means to settling romantic dif-  
 ferences in movies? Blame "Notting  
 Hill." — M. Pols. (PG-13: language,  
 sexual references.) 1 hour, 43 min-  
 utes. **C**

**"PERSONAL VELOCITY":** Taken  
 from writer-director Rebecca Miller's  
 own short stories, "Velocity" sketches  
 three different characters on the  
 edge. Embodied by career-best per-  
 formances from Kyra Sedgwick,  
 Parker Posey and Fairuz Balk, these  
 people earn hard-won break-  
 throughs. Sedgwick is the first seg-  
 ment's Della, a sex-loving teenager  
 turned abused working-class mother.  
 Posey's Greta is a Manhattan book  
 editor who has never forgiven her  
 successful dad for dumping her  
 mom. Not quite grown up is Balk's  
 pregnant punkette, Paula. All great  
 stuff. And all marred by godawful  
 voice-over narration that tells us what  
 the characters are thinking and feel-  
 ing when their actions and expres-  
 sions would do the job. — B.  
 Strauss. (R: sex, violence, nudity, lan-  
 guage.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. **B-**

**"REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES":**  
 The real woman here is Ana (new-  
 comer America Ferrara), a recent  
 (and pretty) high school grad quite  
 proud of her ample proportions. Ana  
 has been commuting from her home  
 in East Los Angeles to the ritzy con-  
 fines of Beverly Hills High School;  
 she wants to go to college, but  
 there's a formidable obstacle in her  
 way. Ana's mom, Carmen (Lupe On-  
 tiveros), believes that slenderness  
 and marriage should be a woman's  
 only goals. Carmen enlists Ana to  
 work in the family-run garment fac-  
 tory, unwilling to let her daughter en-  
 ter the modern world or, heaven for-  
 bid, be happy. This film is sweet and  
 sassy, but not afraid of conflict. Its  
 ethnic milieu is genuine, therefore  
 specific, but many of the themes are  
 universal. — C. Vogner. (PG-13: lan-  
 guage, mild sexual content.) 1 hour,  
 30 minutes. **B**

**"THE SANTA CLAUSE 2":** In the  
 original film, Tim Allen played Scott  
 Calvin, a divorced, disgruntled and  
 sardonically funny dad who was

shown that he had the potential to be  
 Santa. The magical suit helped. But  
 the real magic was seeing how tak-  
 ing on the responsibility for the  
 whole world's holiday cheer can  
 change a person. This sequel brings  
 Allen back as a Santa who still has  
 personal problems. His son, Charlie  
 (Eric Lloyd), has landed on the  
 "naughty" list after drawing graffiti on  
 school walls. And it turns out there  
 was a "Mrs." clause in the original  
 Santa "clause" that put him in his po-  
 sition: He's got to find a wife before  
 Christmas Eve or he loses all his  
 powers. As with so many sequels,  
 many of the effects are bigger,  
 grander and prettier. And anyone  
 who has ever dreamed of a Santa  
 who knows your heart's desire  
 should feel a little tug at the heart  
 when Santa's own dreams come  
 true. — N. Churnin. (G) 1 hour, 38  
 minutes. **B**

**"SOLARIS":** In this remake of Andrei  
 Tarkovsky's 1972 Russian classic tale  
 of spooky happenings aboard a dis-  
 tant space station, writer/director  
 Steven Soderbergh pays homage to  
 the science fiction of his youth,  
 sparse on the gadgetry, heavy on the  
 philosophy. George Clooney stars as  
 a psychologist who goes to investi-  
 gate and falls prey to the seductive  
 powers of the planet Solaris.  
 Natascha McElhone plays his sup-  
 posedly dead wife, who appears  
 aboard the space station. The movie  
 is hampered by its focus on their  
 bloodless love story, but there's  
 enough provocative "2001"-style ma-  
 terial here to salvage the movie. —  
 M. Pols. (PG-13: emotional intensity,  
 sexual innuendo and traces of  
 graphic violence.) 1 hour, 39 min-  
 utes. **B-**

**"STANDING IN THE SHADOWS OF**  
**MOTOWN":** The Funk Brothers were  
 the legendary house band of Motown  
 Records. For decades, the dozen or  
 so keyboardists, guitarists, bassists,  
 drummers and percussionists who  
 created Motown's signature sounds  
 in a tiny basement studio have been  
 living — sometimes dying — in ob-  
 scurity. Documentary filmmaker Paul  
 Justman, working with Allan Slutsky's  
 1989 book about the group, has rec-  
 tified that historical slight with a soar-  
 ing cinematic love letter to the prodi-  
 giously gifted session cats who, in  
 Justman's words, were "the greatest  
 hit machine in the history of pop mu-  
 sic." — A. Hornaday. (PG: language)  
 1 hour, 48 minutes. **B-**

**"STAR TREK: NEMESIS":** The latest  
 voyage into the final frontier finds  
 the Enterprise gang wading into the  
 middle of a Roman civil war. One Re-  
 mun is really miffed; his name is  
 Shinzon (Tom Hardy), and he's a  
 clone of Captain Picard (Patrick  
 Stewart), bio-engineered to take the  
 good captain's place in some far-  
 fetched battle plan. But dressed in  
 purple spandex and leather, he looks  
 a lot like Dr. Evil dressed up in a Hal-  
 loween Jack-o costume, so it's hard  
 to take him too seriously as any kind

of threat. Basically, "Nemesis" plays  
 like an extended episode of the TV  
 series, one that would rank some-  
 where in the middle in terms of qual-  
 ity. — G. Whipp. (PG-13: sci-fi action  
 violence and peril and a scene of  
 sexual content.) 1 hour, 56 minutes.  
**C-**

**"TREASURE PLANET":** From the  
 writing/directing team that brought us  
 "Aladdin," "Hercules" and "The Little  
 Mermaid" comes the most ill-con-  
 ceived animated movie of the year.  
 Robert Louis Stevenson's adventure  
 story "Treasure Island" is relocated to  
 outer space, complete with gassy  
 aliens, the dumb pop songs Disney  
 can't live without, laser guns and regu-  
 lar explosions. Long John Silver is a  
 cyborg. Good grief. What's next,  
 Huck Finn crossing the Milky Way  
 with a Klingon named Jim? — M.  
 Pols. (PG: action adventure and  
 peril.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **C-**

**"TULLY":** Some quietly moving mo-  
 ments and an intelligent subtlety  
 distinguish this earnest independent  
 feature. Set in a small Nebraska town  
 during one pivotal summer, the film  
 stars Aniston Mount as a womanizer  
 forced into confronting key issues in-  
 volving his family. Tully's quiet  
 brother Earl (Glenn Fitzgerald) and  
 Earl's friend (Julianne Nicholson) fig-  
 ure into the story, which is based on  
 an O. Henry story. The cast is first-  
 rate, but the film does have a first-  
 timer feel. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 42  
 minutes. **B-**

**"WAR PHOTOGRAPHER":** James  
 Nachtwey, the award-winning photo-  
 journalist, is the subject of Christian  
 Frei's new documentary. For more  
 than two decades, Nachtwey has  
 traveled to places devastated by war,  
 famine and poverty and documented  
 the cruelty and suffering he has  
 found with a devastating, eloquent  
 clarity. The film is less a retrospective  
 than a profile of the photographer in  
 action. Much of "War Photographer"  
 was recorded by a tiny video camera  
 fastened to the body of Nachtwey's  
 still camera, putting the audience  
 somewhere near his right ear, with an  
 excellent view of his busy right index  
 finger. — A.O. Scott. (NR) 1 hour, 36  
 minutes. **A**

**"THE WAY HOME":** 7-year-old Sang-  
 woo arrives in a remote, primitive  
 South Korean mountain region with  
 his mother, who dumps him on her  
 own mother, mute and bent with age.  
 She promises to return in about two  
 months. Sang-woo reacts with pre-  
 dictable rage and doesn't realize or  
 care that his grandmother, although  
 she cannot speak, can hear him  
 when he explains to her that she's  
 stupid. The woman unwaveringly re-  
 sponds to this and much more bratty  
 behavior with unconditional love.  
 Among the first South Korean films to  
 receive major studio distribution,  
 "The Way Home" is a loving little  
 movie of considerable appeal. — K.  
 Thomas. (PG: mild thematic ele-  
 ments and language.) 1 hour, 25  
 minutes. **B**

**Tax deduction**  
 fair market value

**We handle paperwork**

**Running or not?**  
 Restrictions apply

**Lindsay Wildlife Museum**  
 www.wildlife-museum.org

**donate your vehicle**  
 RVs • REAL ESTATE • BOATS 800 818-2268

Cloudy or bright,  
 see the stars day or night  
 in the  
 Ask Jeeves Planetarium

chabot  
 space & science center  
 oakland

Purchase...  
**1 show ticket**  
 And Receive...  
**1 free**  
 General Admission

Limit 4. Expires 3/31/03.

510.336.7300 • www.chabotspace.org



## NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CHRISTMAS EVE ADVICE BY FRANCES HANSEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

## ACROSS

1 Famed family of auto racers  
7 Not lost  
14 Drug for a poison victim, maybe  
20 Kind of eyes  
21 Lallygags  
22 In-flight  
23 Start of a Christmas verse  
26 Sandpapered  
27 Airport abbr.  
28 Park, Colo.  
29 Article in Die Zeit  
30 "Damage" director  
32 Part of a car test course  
33 Rub  
37 Mrs. John (Pocahontas)  
38 "... calls!"  
39 Not brilliant  
43 They're uplifting  
44 Event covered by paparazzi  
45 1917 Theda Bara role, informally  
46 Mosque head  
47 Verse, part 2  
53 Oklahoma Indian  
54 Utah skiing resort  
55 Field for a gov. or a sen.  
56 Gull sight

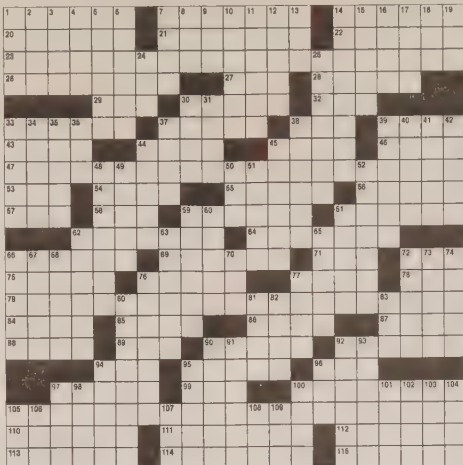
57 Casual time to start work  
58 "O... bambino caro" (Puccini aria)  
59 Removing one's hat in an elevator, e.g.  
61 Where grapes are grown  
62 1950's-60's columnist who wrote "Washington Merry-Go-Round"  
64 Not straight  
66 Episode of the New Testament  
69 Pals  
71 Not an exact fig  
72 Big shock?

75 Nuclear event, in headlines  
76 Rugged ridge  
77 Came down  
78 First of a Latin trio  
79 Verse, part 3  
84 Withered  
85 Skinny  
86 Roman called "the Censor"  
87 "Bus Stop" playwright  
88 Viva-voce  
89 Abbr. after some church names  
90 One cycle per second  
92 Enter the picture  
94 Vacation locale

95 James ... who wrote "The Thin Red Line"  
96 Go astray  
97 Titian rival  
99 Tolkien cannibal  
100 Whippers  
105 End of the verse  
110 "Put your rear down!"  
111 More squalid  
112 Head car, maybe  
113 California county or its seat  
114 Pearly extra  
115 On high

DOWN  
1 Tense critiques  
2 Linguist Chomsky  
3 Mozart's "Dove"  
4 Brand in the frozen foods section  
5 Put to flight  
6 Actress Marceau of "Braveheart"  
7 Knucklehead  
8 Baseball's Pinella  
9 Melody  
10 Intensifying word  
11 Grit  
12 Wear away  
13 Hero's medal: Abbr.  
14 Comment from a lonely-heart  
15 Half-  
16 Cusp

17 One of the Mamas and the Papas  
18 A helping hand  
19 ...Magnon  
24 Lige  
25 Most acute  
30 Marilyn Monroe feature  
31 "When I was ..."  
33 "The Name of the Rose" figure  
34 Beast  
35 Betray, in a way  
36 4's Across had one  
37 Tabula ... (clean slate)  
38 Nissan sedan  
39 Ornamental cord on clothing  
40 Soap plant  
41 Kind of beam  
42 File  
44 Florida collegian  
45 They precede many lies  
46 Bewails  
49 Inventor Howe  
50 Photo  
51 False  
52 Indicate  
59 Attack  
60 Central principle of Baha'ism  
61 Stay  
62 Soft shade  
63 "The Files" dramatist



65 Scottish town of Sir Walter Scott's youth  
66 "Midnight Cowboy" role  
67 Survey choice  
68 Funny Anne  
69 Central principle of Baha'ism  
70 Relative of "Him ..."  
71 Stay  
72 Soft shade  
73 Last of a series  
74 Might

76 Lively  
77 Film cartoon with the voice of Woody Allen  
80 Goss comfortable with  
81 Growing amount?  
82 Lab subjects  
83 Lino occupant, perhaps  
90 Played (around)

91 Hide, in a way  
92 Self-titled 1986 R & B album  
93 Grace, e.g.  
94 Robe material  
95 Wiscrack  
96 Directional suffix  
97 On earth  
98 Rattles on  
100 Country dance locale

101 Popular cuisine  
102 ... de combat  
103 Start of North Carolina's motto  
104 No longer secret  
105 Sustain loion  
106 Combat  
107 Davis was its pres.  
108 Disenumber  
109 Can. province

## Events

FROM PAGE C5

a.m. to 5 p.m. 2911 Russell St., Berkeley, 415-591-8800 or [www.mag-nemuseum.org](http://www.mag-nemuseum.org).

**MILLS COLLEGE ART MUSEUM** — Free, Tuesday, Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-430-2164 or [www.mills.edu/MCAM/mcam.home.html](http://www.mills.edu/MCAM/mcam.home.html).

**MUSEE DES HOMMAGES** — "Masterworks Copies by Guy Colwell," ongoing. A new museum of masterwork recreations of famous European paintings by a California artist. The paintings, which cover a wide spectrum of European paintings from Van Eyck in the 15th century to Picasso in the 20th century, are full-scale, faithful copies of works by famous artists of the past, created in an attempt to understand the secrets of these great artists. The museum does not have regular hours so call ahead. Free, 2028 9th St., Berkeley, 510-841-

4210 or [www.atelier9.com](http://www.atelier9.com)

**OKALMO MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA** — "Wild Wings: The Waterfowl Art of Harry Curieux Adamson," through March 30. Forty-five oil paintings of California wildlife, including waterfowl migration patterns and the nature of avian flight.

"Arte Latino: Treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum," through Jan. 26. Sixty-six paintings, sculptures and photographs highlighting Latino art from across the United States.

"California's Closet: From Flapper to Rap," through March 2. The exhibit explores how California's cultural diversity, entertainment industry and leisure lifestyle impact the nation's clothing styles, from decorated hippie jeans to alluring Hollywood dresses.

"Solo Flights: The Aerial Photographs of Robert Hartman," through Jan. 12. Featuring twenty-five photographs taken from 1,000 feet above ground utilizing exotic colors, abstract geometry, and infrared color film.

"State of Emergency: Disaster Response in California," through March

30. An exhibition offering a historical overview of disasters beginning with the 1905 San Francisco. The exhibit includes Maggie Hallahan's photography, recovered objects, maps, and emergency response equipment.

"The Rustler Ranch Mastodon Project," ongoing. Visitors are invited to watch staff members of the Natural Sciences Department prepare a nearly complete mastodon for exhibit. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**SPECIAL EVENTS** — Free with museum admission unless noted otherwise.

"Community Kwanzaa Celebration: Integrating the Nguzo Saba, the Heart of Kwanzaa," Dec. 29, noon to 4 p.m. Learn the origins, rituals and purpose of Kwanzaa. Featuring a ceremony, crafts, local artists, storytelling, drumming and dancing.

"Online Museum," Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the museum's collection on videodisks in the History Department Library.

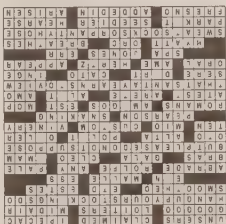
**DAYTRIP TOURS** — Docent Gallery Tours, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

Art a la Carte, ongoing. Art docents of-

fer a variety of specialized tours focusing on one aspect of the museum's permanent collection. Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. Free with museum admission.

**\$5 general:** \$4 seniors and students; free children age 5 and under; second Sundays are free to all. Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; first Friday of the month, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 888-OAK-MUSE or

See EVENTS, Page C10



## Donate Your Vehicle



Your tax deductible donation of a car or RV can MAKE A WISH come true for a child with life-threatening illness.

1-888-794-9444

Greater Bay Area Make-A-Wish

MAKE A WISH



Greg Colden Broker

It's FIRE Season! Are You Protected?

Call Greg Colden at 510-524-3232 for all your INSURANCE needs.

• Fire • Earthquake • Homeowners • Life • Health • Auto • Motorcycles • Commercial Vehicle



Greg Colden Broker

Call Now! 510-524-3232

INSURANCE BROKERAGE

CA LIC. 0044432

10110 San Pablo Ave • El Cerrito (Near Contra Costa)

EMTEK PRODUCTS INC.

Distinctive Hardware for Fine Homes

\*Cortina \$39.00

\*Aireon \$39.00

Lafayette Black or Satin Steel \$49.00

\*Egg Knob \$42.00

\*Hardware available - Polish Brass, Antique Brass, Oil Rub Bronze, Chrome & Satin Nickel in passage, privacy or dummy set. Matching knobs available.

Pineola • 990 Scripps 510-724-8971 Mon-Fri 7-5 Sat 8-5 Fax 510-724-8971

**DOLAN'S** DOORS-WINDOWS

No Payments - No Interest in 2002 or 2003

Not UNTIL JANUARY 2004

65" **MITSUBISHI** Top-Of-The-Line Bay Area Exclusive! \$5999

16:9 INTEGRATED HIGH DEFINITION TV

42" **MITSUBISHI** Reduced \$200! \$1799

16:9 WIDESCREEN HD-UPGRADEABLE

WT-42311 matching stand \$199

## The Ultimate Holiday Gift ... A Big Screen From Anderson's!

Anderson's is offering you savings of up to 50% on all display model, special purchase and open-box Big Screen, High Definition, LCD and flat-panel plasma TVs. You'll also find an incredible selection of new, in-box TVs that have been discounted and then discounted again!

So go to Anderson's now through New Year's Day where you'll experience the guaranteed lowest prices on today's finest TVs from Sony, Panasonic, Sharp and Mitsubishi!

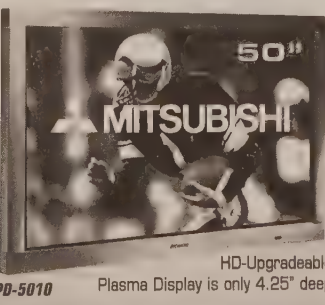


&lt; Sharp 15" AQUOS LCD TV

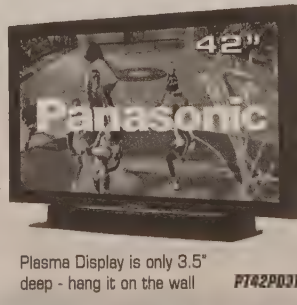


Panasonic &gt; 22" LCD TV

## The Hottest Flat-Panel TVs Are At Anderson's!



PD-5010 HD-Upgradeable Plasma Display is only 4.25" deep



Plasma Display is only 3.5" deep - hang it on the wall

55" **MITSUBISHI** Reduced \$200! \$2999

16:9 INTEGRATED HIGH DEFINITION

36" **SONY** XBR WEGA \$2299

Hi-Sc

KV36KB800 shown with optional

**MITSUBISHI & SONY** No Payments - No Interest If Paid In Full BY JANUARY OF THE YEAR 2004!

Financing offer is subject to credit approval on the purchase of select Mitsubishi and Sony product. See store for more details.

**ANDERSON'S** The ultimate Big Screen experience.

CONCORD 1150 CONCORD AVENUE 925-825-9300  
REDWOOD CITY 901 EL CAMINO REAL 650-367-9400

SANTA CLARA 5241 STEVENS CREEK BLVD. 408-554-1617  
SUNNYVALE 999 EAST EL CAMINO REAL 408-733-9823

SERVICE DEPARTMENT 2700 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD REDWOOD CITY 650-366-9525

Large Screen In-Home Repair Available By Appointment

Concord, Redwood City, Santa Clara store location Monday-Saturday 9A-7P Sunday 9A-6P New Year's Eve 9A-10A Sunnyvale store location Monday-Sunday 10A-7P New Year's Eve 10A-11P

[www.Andersons.com](http://www.Andersons.com)





**Global Electric Motorcars, LLC**  
A DaimlerChrysler Company

**Order By**  
**Jan. 3, 2003**

**2002 E825 Two Passenger Model**



**AND BUY FOR ONLY**

**\$3788\*** **MSRP \$7495**

*4 Passenger  
and  
Utility Bodies  
Available*

*Total Electric  
Street Legal  
30-35 Mile  
Range*

ONE YEAR ON-SIGHT WARRANTY.

**CONNELL**



**Global Electric Motorcars, LLC**  
A DaimlerChrysler Company

**2735 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland**

**888-300-1538**

All prices plus government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, & any emission testing charge.  
Ad expires close of business Sunday, December 29, 2002. Allow 6-8 weeks delivery.\* Metallic paint extra price on basic orders without options.









# CONNELL KIA

## MAKE EVERY MILE COUNT

- 10 YEAR/100,000 MILE POWERTRAIN WARRANTY
- 5 YEAR OR 60,000 MILE BUMPER TO BUMPER WARRANTY
- 5 YEAR OR 100,000 MILE ANTI-Perforation WARRANTY
- 5 YEAR AND UNLIMITED MILE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
- TRIP INTERRUPTION ASSISTANCE

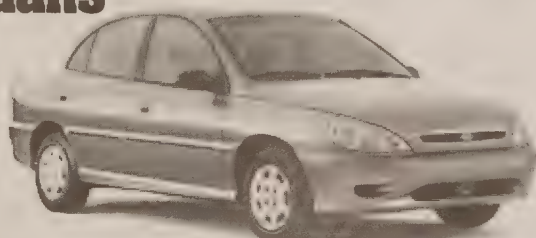


## ZERO CASH DOWN TO OWN AND ZERO PAYMENTS 'TIL FEBRUARY!

ON CREDIT APPROVAL

### 2002 Kia Rio Sedans

- Power Brakes
- Dual remote mirrors
- Tinted Glass
- And Much More!



\*138/mo for 66 mos. 4.5% APR \$17.13 per \$1000 borrowed.  
\$1769.10 after \$1,500 rebate used as down payment on  
credit approval thru Mechanics Bank. # 185683

**\$138**

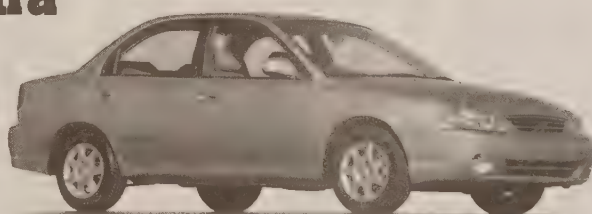
per mo. PURCHASE

WITH CASH DOWN **\$0**

1 AT THIS PAYMENT

### 2002 Kia Spectra

- AM/FM/CD Stereo
- Dual remote mirrors
- Tinted Glass
- And Much More!



\*198/mo for 66 mos. 4.5% APR \$18.50 per \$1000 borrowed.  
\$10,337.92 after \$2,000 rebate used as down payment on  
credit approval thru Mechanics Bank. # 203318

**\$198**

per mo. PURCHASE

WITH CASH DOWN **\$0**

1 AT THIS PAYMENT

### 2002 Kia Sedona Minivan

- 3.5L V-6 Engine
- Dual remote mirrors
- Power Wind/Locks
- Frnt/Rear Air
- 7 Passenger Seating
- And Much Much More!



\*338/mo for 66 mos. 4.5% APR \$17.13 per \$1000 borrowed.  
\$17,929.92 after \$1,000 rebate used as down payment on credit  
approval thru Mechanics Bank. # 316867

**\$338**

per mo. PURCHASE

WITH CASH DOWN **\$0**

1 AT THIS PAYMENT

### 2003 Kia Serento LX

- 3.5L V-6 Engine
- Air Condition
- Power Wind/Locks
- Trailer-Tow Pckg.
- AM/FM/CD System
- And Much Much More!



Lease for 66 mos. @ \$288/mo. + tax, \$1,850 cash or trade  
equity due at lease inception. 12K miles/year & .15/mile thereafter.  
\$0 Refundable security deposit. # 049734

**\$288** PLUS TAX  
per mo.  
**LEASE**

1 AT THIS PAYMENT

**CONNELL KIA 888-300-1538**

**2735 Broadway Auto Row  
Oakland**

SE HABLE ESPAÑOL  
HAME HOY  
1-888-747-8777

All prices plus government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, & any emission testing charge. Ad expires close of business Thursday, December 29, 2002.



## Events

FROM PAGE C6

a.m. to 5 p.m. 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. 415-591-8800 or [www.magnesium.com](http://www.magnesium.com)

**MILLS COLLEGE ART MUSEUM —**  
Free. Tuesday, Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-430-2164 or

**MUSEE DES HOMMAGES** — "Masterworks Copies by Guy Colwell," ongoing. A new museum of masterwork recreations of famous European paint-

recreations of famous European paintings by a California artist. The paintings, which cover a wide spectrum of European paintings from Van Eyck in the 15th century to Picasso in the 20th century, are full-scale, faithful copies of works by famous artists of the past, created in an attempt to understand the secrets of these great artists. The museum does not have

regular hours so call ahead.  
Free. 2028 9th St., Berkeley. 510-841-4210 or [www.atelier9.com](http://www.atelier9.com)

**OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA**  
— "Wild Wings: The Waterfowl Art of  
Harry Curieux Adamson," through  
March 30. Forty-five oil paintings of  
California wildlife, including waterfowl

migration patterns and the nature of avian flight

"Arte Latino: Treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum," through Jan. 26. Sixty-six paintings, sculptures and photographs highlighting Latino art from across the United States.

"California's Closet: From Flapper to Rapper," through March 2. The exhibit explores how California's cultural diversity, entertainment industry and leisure lifestyle impact the nation's clothing styles, from decorated hippie jeans to alluring Hollywood dresses.

"Solo Flights: The Aerial Photographs of Robert Hartman," through Jan. 12. Featuring twenty-five photographs taken from 1,000 feet above ground utilizing exotic colors, abstract geometry, and infrared color film.

"State of Emergency: Disaster Response in California," through March 30. An exhibition offering a historical overview of disasters beginning with the 1906 San Francisco. The exhibit includes Maggie Hallahan's photography, recovered objects, maps, and emergency response equipment.

"The Rustler Ranch Mastodon Project," ongoing. Visitors are invited to watch staff members of the Natural Sciences Department prepare a nearly complete mastodon for exhibit. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**SPECIAL EVENTS** — Free with museum admission.

admission unless noted otherwise  
Community Kwanzaa Celebration: Integrating the Nguzo Saba, the Heart of Kwanzaa," Dec. 29, noon to 4 p.m. Learn the origins, rituals and purpose of Kwanzaa. Featuring a ceremony, crafts, local artists, storytelling, drumming and dancing.

Online Museum," Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the museum's collection on videodisks in the History Department Library.

**DAYTRIP TOURS** — Docent Gallery  
Tours, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30  
P.M.

Art à la Carte, ongoing. Art docents offer a variety of specialized tours focusing on one aspect of the museum's permanent collection. Wednesday,

12:30 p.m. Free with admission  
\$6 general; \$4 seniors and students;  
free children age 5 and under; second  
Sundays are free to all. Wednesday  
through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;  
Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; first Friday of  
the month, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. 1000  
Oak St., Oakland. 888-OAK-MUSE or  
[www.muse-mca.org](http://www.muse-mca.org)

**PARDEE HOME MUSEUM** — The historic Pardee Mansion, a three-story Italianate villa built in 1868, was home to three generations of the Pardee family who were instrumental in the civic and cultural development of California and Oakland. The home includes the house, grounds, water

tower and barn. Reservations recommended

"Holiday Tours," Wednesday, Fridays  
and Saturdays through December,  
noon to 4 p.m.

\$5 general; free children under age 12  
House Tours: Friday and Saturday,  
noon. 672 11th St., Oakland. 510-44-

2187 or [www.pardeehome.org](http://www.pardeehome.org).  
**RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY**  
 — Permanent exhibits highlight Richmond's cultural, industrial and archi-

**Places of Faith and Worship,** ongoing  
An exhibit documenting the history of

the many churches that reflect Richmond's diverse cultures and lifestyle. Free. Wednesday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 400 Nevin Ave., Richmond. 516-285-7887.

**UC BERKELEY ART MUSEUM** — "Beyond Preconceptions: The Sixties Experiment," closing Dec. 29. A presentation of 21 artists from Europe and the Americas whose work reflects the dramatic political and cultural changes of the 1960s  
"Intaglio Prints" through Mar. 16. An e-




hibition of works on paper by avant-garde composer John Cage, best known for his experimental music "Lyric Suite," through Jan. 26. American abstract expressionist painter Robert Motherwell's exhibition is a depiction of raw emotion using uncalculated brush strokes and spontaneous ink

patterns.  
"Matrix 200: Yehudit Sasportas,"

through Jan. 19. Installation art fusing drawing, painting, sculptures and architecture.

"Fast Forward II," through Feb. 9. A sequel to "Fast Forward," this exhibition continues to show how the Berkeley

Art Museum's collections have grown over the past five years "XXL II," through March. Showcasing



**100's Of Colors In Stock**

Based on counters of 16 line  
Tel: 510-895-9899  
**Bay-Fineworks M**  
2098 Merced St.,  
www.fwmarble.com  
Mon.-Fri. 8 am - 5 pm

the biggest *news*  
large scale *car*

from Gay S. Lee  
Petan Co. Inc.  
\$6 general S. Lee

ages 12 to 18  
12 and 13, Berlin  
Thursdays 10am

Way Better  
www.barnplans.com

GR

KIT  
COUN

AS  
LOW  
AS \$

• Fax: 510-89  
**rble & Gran**  
an Leandro, CA  
Lic. 4  
0 pm • Sat. 9 am

AMC BAY STREET 16

# Now Open

Stadium Seating  
16 Wall-to-Wall Screens  
Digital Surround Sound

I-80, Ashby Exit to  
Shellmound Street  
in Emeryville

**AMC**  
THEATRES  
**Bay Street 16**  
in Emeryville

*Experience the Difference*

Now Playing:

catch me if you can

**ANTWONE FISHER**

**THE LORD OF THE RINGS**  
THE TWO TOWERS

**GANGS OF NEW YORK**

Adaptation.

Two Weeks Notice  
**Evelyn**

Advance ticketing available  
at [MovieWatcher.com](http://MovieWatcher.com) or 510-457-4262  
Check movie directory for showtimes.

**MovieWatcher.**


Your Most Rewarding  
Moviegoing Club!™  
Start earning Free Popcorn.  
Free Soft Drinks. Free Movies and more.  
Enroll instantly at the theatre  
(limited time).

Student discount available  
with valid student ID.

Reduced parking \$1.00  
for four hours with AMC validation

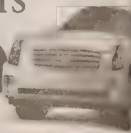
HILLS NEWSPAPERS  
EMERYVILLE: THE JOURNAL • HONOLULU: HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN • SAN FRANCISCO: THE EXAMINER • ALBANY: ALBANY JOURNAL

Drive The LEGEND

BREAK  THROUGH

2003 Cadillac CTS  
Starting at...

**\$29,350**  
1 at this price  
VIN #38925




**0% APR + 0 Down + 0**

On All New 2003 Cadillacs in Stock

On Approved Lender Credit

Over 70 Pre-Owned Vehicles In Stock

Lease Returns, Demos, Factory Cars and More

 *Wayne Steward Cadillac*


2390 North Main Street In Walnut Creek

**(925) 934-9300**

[www.waynesteadcadillac.com](http://www.waynesteadcadillac.com)

\*Available on all new 2003 Cadillacs in stock on approved dealer credit. \$29,350 MSRP. \$29,350 MSRP for 36 months, then, 0% APR with 36 monthly payments of \$27.98, or \$172.12. All vehicles subject to prior sale, plus government fees and available dealer charges, any dealer document preparation charge and any other available charge. Must take delivery from dealer stock by 1/2/03.

EXPERIENCE • DINE



**SHOP**  
**OAKLAND**

**Shop the World in Your  
Own Neighborhood**

Adams Point  
Airport Area  
Bancroft  
Bret Harte  
Broadway Auto Row  
Central East Oakland  
Chinatown  
Dimond  
Durant Square  
Downtown  
Eastlake  
Eastmont  
Elmhurst  
Fairfax  
Foothill  
Fruitvale  
Glenview  
Golden Gate  
Grand Avenue

Jack London Gateway  
Jack London Square  
Korea Town  
Lake Merritt  
Lakeshore  
Laurel  
MacArthur Boulevard  
Marina  
North Oakland  
Oakland Museum  
Piedmont Avenue  
Rockridge  
San Antonio  
San Pablo  
Seminary  
Swans Market  
Telegraph Avenue  
Temescal  
West Oakland

**Click to [www.ShopOakland.com](http://www.ShopOakland.com)  
shopping destinations to find that  
gift this season.**

**Plus learn how to win tickets on Southwest  
vacation packages.**



# Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, December 27, 2002

Section D

## Classic Classics: Owner gets satisfaction driving his Mack truck [D4]

**DON CHAIKIN**  
Owners Auto Know

Now is time to  
check wipers  
and washer

MOTOR MATTERS

With snow, ice, slush and fewer daylight hours, driving at this time of year can be a harrowing experience. It can be downright dangerous if you can't see past the windshield.

Even windshield wipers that are in their prime won't win the battle against the streaks, smears and splatters that hinder vision in a snowfall. The best windshield wipers need help from your vehicle's windshield washer.

Regardless of where you live, it is a good idea to be sure that the washer system is at optimum capacity.

Regular maintenance of your washer means checking the washer's reservoir. Remember that if your vehicle is equipped with a rear washer, you also have a second reservoir. To be certain, check the owner's manual.

You should inspect the washer's nozzles regularly. In fact, if you live in a snowy belt, this time of year you may have to refill it weekly.

The reservoir does need to be refilled, so do so with a commercial windshield washer solvent. It contains an antifreeze agent.

The antifreeze that's in washer fluid is not the same as engine antifreeze, so don't add any of that to the washer reservoir.

Also, don't simply add regular windshield cleaner to the washer. Some of the chemicals in household cleaner will attack the windshield.

By OWNERS, Page D3



THE 2003 VW GOLF is a five-passenger, four-door hatchback that's classified as a small car yet has respectable interior roominess.

## 2003 VW Golf diesel provides fuel economy

MOTOR MATTERS

Interested in a car that gets good fuel mileage? Take a look at the 2003 Volkswagen Golf GLS Turbo Diesel Injection, which gets 49 miles per gallon highway.

Fuel economy is one reason the Golf has been the best-selling car in Europe for many years.

Gasoline is more expensive in Europe than in the U.S. Another reason is that the Golf is an all-around nice little car — and it doesn't cost a fortune.

The base price of my tester is \$18,710. Options to bring it to

\$19,760 include the Monsoon sound system, heated seats, heated windshield washer nozzles, plus shipping.

The Golf is a five-passenger, four-door hatchback that's classified as a small car yet has respectable interior roominess.

With the rear hatch open and the rear seats folded down, it is capable of carrying large cargo, such as a washing machine or large TV set.

With the seats in the normal position, a cover over the rear storage helps reduce interior noise.

There are three versions of the

**TOM KEANE**  
Keane on Wheels

Golf: two- and four-door GL models and the GLS. The heated seats are available only on the GLS and are very comforting in cold weather.

Another worthwhile option is the Electronic Stabilization Program to get the car back on track if an emergency swerve causes the driver to lose control.

To my surprise, a 1.9-liter four-

cylinder 90-horsepower engine powers this vehicle. The four cylinders didn't surprise me as I could hear the typical diesel-engine sound of "clack-clack-clack," but 90 horsepower?

Obviously, this car is not a speedster, yet I had no difficulty keeping pace in traffic — and at 42 mpg city driving, that's great performance.

The torque range is quite broad, and the Golf was quick to accelerate, regardless of speed.

My tester had a manual transmission that was easy and smooth

to shift. Although an automatic transmission is available, the fuel economy isn't as impressive.

But there are disadvantages to diesel fuel: It is not available at all gas stations; sometimes the pumps are off to the side of the station where trucks have easier access; and diesel has a distinctive odor that could be detected every time I got into the car.

I had the opportunity to drive this vehicle through some snow and slush and with the front-wheel drive.

See KEANE, Page D2

OAKLAND

**OAKLAND'S ONLY TOYOTA DEALER!**

**Year-End Sales Event**

**0% APR 2.9% APR 3.9% APR**

**on '02/'03 Camry, Tundra, Echo & Solara (excludes convertibles) and '02 Prius, RAV 4 on credit approval**

<b>'03 Corolla CE</b>  <b>\$13,888</b> 3 at this price Model 1002/031731, 037830, 041377	<b>'03 Camry LEs</b> 25 in Stock  <b>\$24,999</b> 39 mo. lease @ \$249/mo. + tax. 12K miles/year. \$0.15 mile thereafter Total due at lease inception \$650.01 \$0 Refundable Security Deposit	<b>'03 Echo</b>  <b>\$9,999</b> 1 at this price model 1413/270879	<b>'02 Celica GT</b> Power Windows, Door Locks, AM/FM Cass. & Much More!  <b>\$16,988</b> 1 at this price #138501
<b>'03 Solara</b> All Power Windows/Locks & Much More!  <b>\$18,988</b> 1 at this price #022668	<b>'02 Prius</b> Power Windows/Locks, CD, Cruise & More!  <b>\$19,888</b> 1 at this price Model 1222/066927	<b>'02 RAV4</b> Power Windows/Locks, Alum. Wheels, AM/FM Cass. & More!  <b>\$19,888</b> Net Cost 1 at this price After \$780 Factory Rebate Model 4428/177309	<b>'03 Avalon XL</b>  <b>\$25,888</b> 1 at this price Model 2834/1302844

**We'll Match Any Ad Price!**

**4145 Broadway Auto Row - Oakland**  
**510-547-4436 800-500-5299**  
**www.downtowntoyota.com**

All prices plus government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any dealer documentation preparation charge & any emission or tire fee. All vehicles subject to prior sale. Ad expires 12/31/02.  
 \*Special 0%, 2.9% & 3.9% on credit approval and cannot be combined with factory cash back or rebate offers. Maximum amount financed \$25,000 on credit approval through Toyota Motor Credit Company to tier I and II customers.

**Your Local Customer Consultant**  
**DEREK NG**

**SAAB OAKLAND'S ONLY SAAB DEALER!**

**0% APR for 60 Months Financing**

Automatic Transmission, Front Heated Seats, Launch Package

\$20,000 maximum amount to finance @ \$16.68 per thousand on credit approval.

90 Day deferred payment on all 2003 Saab purchases! Photo for illustration purposes. Call for details. On approved credit thru Saab Financing.

**800-335-7222**  
**www.downtownsaab.com**

**SUBARU OAKLAND'S ONLY SUBARU DEALER!**

**THE ALL NEW 2003 BAJA IS HERE!**

**\$22,288**  
 1 at this price #100252

**2003 FORESTER**  
 All Power Windows/Locks, Alloy Wheels & More!

**\$19,388**  
 1 at this price #7447

**'02 WRX**  
 Automatic, Black Ext., Upgraded Sound System, Security System & More!

**Sale Price \$22,777**  
 1 @ This Price! #527816

**This Weekend Only.**  
**800-200-5299**  
**www.downtownsubaru.com**  
 \*1.9% fin. on approved credit. Applies to 2002 & 2003 Forester, Legacy & Outback. Subject to prior sale.

**CREDIT PROBLEMS OK! WE CAN HELP!**





MOTOR MATTERS

## 2003 Ford Explorer: A mid-size SUV mainstay

MOTOR MATTERS

How big is too big? When it comes to SUVs that's a question that manufacturers have been trying to answer for some time now. As sport utes got more and more popular in the 1990s, variations appeared ranging from tiny to huge.

Now, as we've turned the corner on the millennium, the market seems to be sorting itself out. The smaller versions are becoming hybrid "crossovers," and the really big ones are becoming extinct.

Meanwhile, the mid-size Ford Explorer continues on as a perennial best-seller, suggesting that a lot of people find this a practical size vehicle for their needs.

Right size is one thing, but there's more to this Ford's success than just the dimensions. Variety, for one. The new Explorer is offered in a multitude of models, trim levels and packages.

Ford now sells XLS, XLS Sport, XLT, XLT Sport, NBX, Eddie Bauer and Limited versions. New among these offerings is the NBX package. The most distinguishing feature is the Yakima cargo basket mounted top-side.

Measuring 44 inches by 39 inches by 6.5 inches deep, the steel basket will accommodate gear that either can't be stowed inside (because you're packed to capacity), or that

**DAN LYONS**  
Get Off the Road

you just don't want to put inside (like muddy, soggy stuff that you don't want messing up the interior).

The Explorer is hardly small, so you might wonder why anybody would need extra room on the roof.

A conventional, five-passenger model will hold a generous 46.6 cubic feet of gear behind the back seat; 88 cubic feet, with rear row folded.

Seven-passenger models do almost as well with all rows folded, but if needing maximum seating, this configuration leaves you with minimum room.

Three rows for people nets a pack-light 13.8 cubic feet for stuff. So, the more people you plan on taking along for the ride, the more a roof rack or the NBX's Yakima basket becomes a necessity.

Cargo carrier aside, the NBX package includes black trim on bumpers, side moldings and step bars, larger rolling stock and special interior trim.

All Explorers have a well designed interior, the highlights of which are a logical array of switchgear, plenty of room and lots of small storage spots.

The lowlights are entry/exit from the third row seats (where fitted), and

the corresponding reduction in cargo room.

Access to the cargo compartment is by means of a split-design rear door. You can either swing the window or the whole tailgate up, depending on what you're loading/unloading.

Explorer underwent a complete makeover last year, part of which concerned the chassis. An independent rear suspension replaced the former solid axle design, and the difference is mostly felt in corners.

New Explorers will absorb a mid-corner bump with less carrying on than previously, and also less in the way of side-to-side bounce.

Off-road, the new suspension's improved compliance means a smoother trip on rough terrain. Explorer's 4x4 system defaults to an automatic setting, wherein traction is poured through all four paws only when conditions dictate. Otherwise, it's rear-wheel drive.

The driver can also select four-wheel drive high or low settings.

The undercarriage can be equipped with optional, protective skid plates for the powertrain components by selecting the off-road package.

Last year's redesign trimmed some overhang off both ends, resulting in improved angles of ap-

proach and departure (27.7 and 23.9 degrees, respectively).

The ramp breakover angle is 18.2 degrees; ground clearance measures 8.5 inches.

I have driven the Explorer on some pretty rugged off-road trails and also through some nasty winter weather. Conditions were as bad and worse than the typical Explorer buyer will ever encounter, and through it all, Ford acquitted itself nicely.

Like all truck-based SUVs, Explorer's high center of gravity suggests caution when cornering, especially in slick conditions. That being said, it offers good-for-the-breed handling and exemplary ride comfort.

Two engine choices are available: a standard 4.0-liter V6 and the optional 4.6-liter V8, as found in my test vehicle. It's rated at 239 horsepower, 282 pound-feet of torque.

The V8 is smooth and powerful, and predictably thirsty—I averaged a tick over 14 mpg in more than 500 miles of mixed driving. Explorer can be optioned to tow as much as 7,300 pounds.

On- or off-road, towing a trailer or transporting the troops, Explorer's key to success is its adaptability. Versatility and variety keep this Ford perennially near the top of the pack in SUV sales.

## Monitoring system fail if gas cap not tight

KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

**Q** I have a 2000 Honda. It now has 60,000 miles on it.

Ever since the car was new, the engine light has come on periodically. The dealership is more than 40 miles away and they have been very kind to reset it.

They tell me that I need to click the cap more than three times when I refuel. Well, I click the cap at least 10 times each time, so much so that people at the pumps look at me like I am crazy.

I took the car in last week for the problem. They took about two hours and said they could not find anything wrong, but changed the sensor.

I refueled after I left the dealership on Tuesday, I used the car about 10 times since then. The light came on again this morning.

Do you have any idea what the problem might be?

**James Hubbell**  
Napoleonville, La.

**A** Your Honda, like other cars and light trucks built since 1996, is equipped with OBD-II (On-Board Diagnostics, generation 2).

This government-mandated emissions diagnostics system keeps an eye on a wide range of engine and emission conditions, and alerts you via the "Check Engine" light if exhaust or evaporative emissions are likely to exceed 1.5 times the government standard.

Your car monitors the fuel storage and evaporative control system by running leakage and flow tests, depending on operating conditions, as often as once or twice a day, or less frequently if rather stringent enable criteria aren't met.

The system is capable of identifying the smallest of leaks, and the EVAP hoses, storage canister, valves and tank plumbing offer many an opportunity for problems.

Failing to tighten the gas cap

properly can result in a test and an ill-engine light. From standpoint this is a but can be a

Why might the light to come occurs, and fixed?

The OBD-II system see the leak test is executed, before the light, and comes

The official occasions the necessary test to run, when start a certain some vehicles, come information of

It sounds like a small leak in the and the dealer's time finding a

Some shops are to fill the system with smoke and visible leakage, while pressure to leak nitrogen and use a leak detector to

The EVAP components can also be to evacuate and much like the EVAP leaks can

find, but with the nation of skill, power and service software done.

Because of the standards, EVAP common almost make and make. Brad Berglund's automotive technology green Valley College, Jose, Calif. Email: Bberglund@valley.edu to him in case of News, 750 Redwood San Jose, Calif. 95128 not make person

## Keane on Wheels

FROM PAGE D1

I had no difficulty staying on course. On clear roads, the Golf has a nice solid, secure ride.

Volkswagen people told me the rear wheels are linked to a track-correcting torsion beam axle, and the springs and shocks have been installed separately.

The engineers also point out that Golf has earned five-star rating in frontal crash tests, and the body structure has crumple zones.

The Golf also has a collapsible steering column and numerous other safety features, including side airbags and side curtain protection that help prevent head injury to front and rear passengers.

Other safety features include a LATCH system for child seats, anti-lock brakes and daytime running lights.

But what impressed me most were the solid, firm ride and handling — which also contribute to safety.

The Golf likewise includes a lot of thoughtful features, such as the three-point safety belts, tilt-and-telescoping steering column, a remote central locking system and an anti-theft alarm system.

Power windows include one-touch up-and-down on the driver's door.

Also included are cruise control, heated power mirrors, and the AM/FM stereo/cassette Monsoon sound system with CD player with eight speakers.

The system is easy to operate and sounds great.

Furthermore, achieving 49 miles to the gallon is an enticing attribute.

## VW GOLF GLS TURBO DIESEL

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, four-door
	FWD sedan
Suggested Retail	\$18,710
Price as Tested	\$19,760
Engine Type	1.9-liter four-cylinder turbo direct injection
	diesel
Horsepower	90 at 3,750 rpm
Torque	155 at 1,900 rpm
Transmission	Five-speed manual
Wheelbase	99 inches
Overall Length	165 inches
Curb Weight	2,976 pounds
Fuel Capacity	14 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 42/49
Strong Feature	Fuel economy
Weak Feature	Diesel availability



**CONNELL**

**JEEP • CHRYSLER**

**NO HASSLES NO GIMMICKS**

**YEAR-END CLEARANCE! NOW UNTIL JANUARY 2nd 2003!**

**2003 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED**  
4x4, Automatic, Loaded!



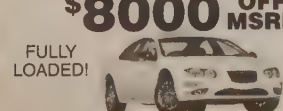
**\$6800 OFF MSRP**  
MSRP \$38,045  
Rebate -2,500  
Connell Discount -4,300  
Sale \$31,245

**2002 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LIMITED**



**\$5500 OFF MSRP**  
Additional \$500 Value  
HIFI System CD or Digital  
Camera or Walkman Player  
Recorder

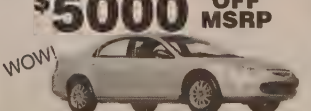
**2002 CHRYSLER 300M**



**\$8000 OFF MSRP**

**1 @ this discount #310592**

**2002 CHRYSLER SEBRING LX**



**\$5000 OFF MSRP**

**1 @ this discount #239335**

**2002 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LXI**

EQUIPMENT - Loaded with Leather and Much More



**\$9000 OFF MSRP**

Additional \$500 Value  
HIFI System CD or Digital  
Camera or Walkman Player  
Recorder

**1 @ this discount #692068**

**2003 JEEP WRANGLER SE**



**\$13,888 NET COST**

MSRP \$16,400  
Factory Rebate -1,000  
Connell Discount -1,512  
Sale \$13,888

**1 @ this discount #318075**

**2002 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT**



**\$5500 OFF MSRP**

OUR PRICE \$14,935  
**1 @ this discount #289432**

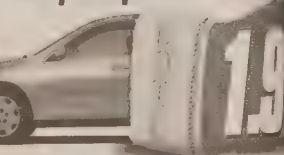
All prices plus government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, & any emission testing charge. Ad expires close of business Sunday, December 29, 2002.

**CONNELL**  
**JEEP • CHRYSLER**

**2735 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland**  
**888-300-1538**

**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER**

**Wrap It Up! Year-End Clearance**



**2003 Civic LX Coupe-Automatic!**

**\$14,988**

**1.9% APR!**

**2003 Accord LX Sedan-Automatic!**

**\$18,688**

**USED HONDA CYBERBILT**

**www.jimdottenhonda.com**

1 Limited 1 Year/100,000 Mile Powertrain Warranty  
1 Limited 12 Mo./12,000 Mile Full Factory Warranty  
1 150 Point Check/Repair/Replace Inspection  
1 24 Hr. Roadside Assistance & More!

**99 Civic EX Sdn**  
#131129  
WHITE

**01 Odyssey EX**  
#061720  
WHITE

**00 Accord LX Sdn**  
#108931  
SILVER

**00 Accord SE Sdn**  
#022169  
RED

**99 Civic V6 Sdn**  
#584923  
SILVER

**00 Civic EX Cpe**  
#125872  
SILVER

**00 Civic HX Cpe**  
#083945  
SILVER

**00 Accord SE Sdn**  
#043811  
GOLD

**Jim DOTEN BERKELEY HONDA**

1 Limited term financing on selected used cars with credit approval  
Honda Finance Corp. Price plus government fees and taxes. See dealer for dealer document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge.  
Offer ends 72 hrs after publication. Subject to inventory.

2000 Sanituck Ave., Berkeley (510)745-3700 • Check & Drive!



# Washers Auto Know

BY PAGE D1

Washing the car's washer system and the pump, as well as shorten windshield wiper blade life. After topping up the reservoir as necessary, you should inspect the system for leaks. If you notice a sudden drop in level, suspect a leak. Begin your inspection at the reservoir, looking for small cracks or pinholes. Usually trouble spots are any areas where plastic reservoir may rub against other components or brackets. Tiny holes or cracks may be repairable with silicone sealant. Next, check the tubes that carry the solution. Inspect both ends of all tubes. Check for splits, cracks, kinks and holes. If the hose ends are hardened, they will continue to leak. Make sure that the tubes are solidly attached to all connectors, and the nozzles and the pump. If there is any problem with any tube, disconnect it from the pump. Windshield washer tubing is available at auto parts stores. Since the inside diameter of the tubing from vehicle to vehicle, be sure to use a piece of the old tubing with you to match. If one or more of the washer nozzles don't deliver a strong spray or stream of water, the nozzle may be clogged or its hose kinked. Disconnect the tube from the nozzle and blow air through the nozzle and the tube, back to the reservoir. You can do this by simply blowing into the tube. Attach the tube to the nozzle and disconnect it at its other end, then blow through it to clear the nozzle. If you have access to compressed air

and a blow gun, you can use the nozzle of the blow gun to force air through the nozzle. If air doesn't clear the nozzle, use a straight pin to clean any blockage from the nozzle's opening. Sometimes the solvent hits the windshield glass too low or too high for the wipers to effectively clean the windshield. The spray should hit the glass between 1/2 to 2/3 up and in the middle of the wiper's arc. If not, re-aim the nozzle. Depending on the specifics of the nozzle, this adjustment can be done by loosening a screw and gently moving the nozzle, or by bending the nozzle slightly (using a pair of needle-nose pliers), or by inserting a pin into the nozzle's opening and using the pin as a joy stick to move the ball of the nozzle. In any case, very slight movements of the nozzle will make a big difference. Of course, it's always possible for the system to fail entirely. In that case, check the fuse or circuit breaker. Since the wipers often share a fuse or breaker with the washers, if the wipers work and the washers don't, the problem is probably related to the wiring to the pump or the pump itself. If you can, check the wiring connections. If there has been a leak near the pump, these connections will be corroded. If the wiring is sound, you may have to replace the washer pump. You can either buy an original replacement from your car dealer or a less-expensive universal replacement from the auto parts store.

# Concept Buick may come out by 2006

BY JIM MATEJA  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Auto Horizon, the Automotive Intelligence Internet newsletter, says the concept Buick (for now dubbed Centurion) shown by General Motors at a recent meeting in Pebble Beach and destined for next year's auto show circuit, may become reality in 2006 as a vehicle aimed at youth and positioned below the current Rendezvous.

(Others, however, such as Global Insider, an industry

newsletter out of Detroit, says Centurion reflects the styling cues of the next-generation Rendezvous for '06 or '07.)

Also, the Malibu Maxx hatchback shown at Pebble Beach is based on the same Epsilon platform that will be shared by the '04 Chevy Malibu and '05 Pontiac Grand Am sedans, plus an upcoming Saturn Transponder hybrid featuring a 3.2-liter V6 gasoline engine teamed with two electric motors to deliver a combined 250 horsepower and

35 miles-per-gallon fuel economy.

The supercharged Pontiac G6 concept sedan shown at Pebble Beach is said to hint at the styling of the '04 Pontiac Grand Prix and redesigned '05 Grand Am, which comes out as a sedan first followed in '06 by coupe and convertible.

The new Grand Am is expected to have a supercharged 3.2-liter V6 and optional all-wheel-drive.

We've reported that Chevy

wants to bring back a Chevelle SS. Auto Horizon says that '06 could be the date and that it might be joined by a return of the El Camino car/truck as well as a revived Camaro.

And Toyota may drop the slow-selling MR2 Spyder after '05, just before a redesigned Celica comes out for '06, and may bring out a new sports car inspired by its 1967 model 2000GT that could come off the Lexus IS300 platform — perhaps in '04.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

N. Calif.'s #1 Hyundai Dealer Goes Crazy for Your Business!

Year-End Win-Win Event-Ends Jan. 5!  
**CRAZY Blowout Prices**  
on Every Hyundai  
While They Last!

As Low As...  
**0% DOWN**  
**APR**  
'03 Accents  
**\$6588**  
That's Crazy!  
Open Late Hours & 1st Look for the headlights!

\*XG350 0.0% Limited time offer. With your good credit.  
The Hyundai Advantage **AMERICA'S BEST WARRANTY\***  
**10 Year 100,000 Mile Powertrain Protection**  
**5 Year 60,000 Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Coverage**  
**5 Year Unlimited Mile 24-hr Roadside Assistance**

**2003 Accent**  
Step it up! CRAZY Price!  
\$9894 MSRP  
-\$2300 Dealer Discount  
-\$300 Factory Rebate  
**\$6588 Net Cost**  
Model #J23131 1st at this price #236462

**2003 Elantra-Loaded-Air!**  
We are CRAZY!  
\$13,632 MSRP  
-\$3344 Dealer Discount  
-\$500 Factory Rebate  
**\$9788 Net Cost**  
Model #J24402 1st at this price #472933

**2003 Sonata Auto, Moonroof!**  
Pay it or You're CRAZY!  
\$17,395 MSRP  
-\$3307 Dealer Discount  
**\$13,988 Net Cost**  
Model #24402 1st at this price #765982

**2003 Hyundai Santa Fe**  
Cool SUV at a CRAZY Price!  
\$18,049 MSRP  
-\$1661 Dealer Discount  
**\$16,488 Net Cost**  
Model #J24423 1st at this price #387931

"Win-Win" Hotline: **510.222.8882**

\*Prices after any applicable rebates, plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge. Vehicles subject to prior sale.

**DOTEN**  
HILLTOP RICHMOND  
**HYUNDAI**  
Richmond Pkwy  
Hilltop Dr.  
3295 AUTO PLAZA RD.  
RICHMOND

CREDIT HOTLINE: 800.510.8577 • WWW.DOTENAUTO.COM • OPEN 7 DAYS

Walnut Creek Honda Walnut Creek Honda Walnut Creek Honda

**3.49%**

**LONG-TERM FINANCING ON ALL NEW 2003 HONDAS**

**On Approved Credit**

Financing Available Thru American Honda Finance Corp.

**1.9% APR**

**LONG TERM FINANCING ON 2003 CIVICS**

Financing Available Thru A.H.F.C.

ALL '03 CIVIC LX COUPES Model #FM2253PW <b>\$14,999</b>	ALL '03 CIVIC EX COUPES Model #FM2293MW <b>\$16,599</b>
ALL '03 CIVIC LX 4 DRS. Model #FS1653PW <b>\$15,099</b>	ALL '03 CIVIC EX 4 DRS. Model #FS2673MW <b>\$16,799</b>

**Walnut Creek Honda**

2555 North Main Street  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
**866-587-5444**

Expires 12/29/02 \*All prices plus government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge and dealer installed options.

Visit Our Website: [www.WalnutCreekHonda.com](http://www.WalnutCreekHonda.com)

**ACURA**

<b>2002 RSX</b> Special Purchase - All With Automatic Trans. 6 To Choose From - All At The Same Price Zero Down* Zero Pmts. Til 2003* 4.9% APR Financing 12 Mo./12,000 mi. Factory Warranty and 7 Year/100K mile Power Train Warranty from Orig. In-Service Date • First Come - First Served!	<b>1999 3.5 RL</b> Special Purchase 6 To Choose From - All At The Same Price Zero Down* Zero Pmts. Til 2003* 4.9% APR Financing 12 Mo./12,000 mi. Factory Warranty and 7 Year/100K mile Power Train Warranty from Orig. In-Service Date • First Come - First Served!
<b>\$18,950</b>	<b>\$21,950</b>

\*On Approved Credit Thru American Honda Finance

**Oakland Acura**  
"Easy to Do Business With"  
[www.oaklandacura.com](http://www.oaklandacura.com)  
277 27th St. at Harrison  
Expires 12/30/02.

**PARKER ROBB WALNUT CREEK**

**DISCOUNT TRUCK CENTER**

**0% APR FINANCING**  
**60 MONTHS**

\$16.67 per \$1000 borrowed thru GMAC  
Available on Select 2003 Models  
In Lieu of Rebates

**ON APPROVED CREDIT**

**CHEVROLET**

**PURCHASE OR LEASE**  
ANY ELIGIBLE CHEVY TRUCK AND RECEIVE  
**2 SEASON PASSES VALID AT TAHOE RESORTS**

**2003 SUBURBAN 4x4 LT's**  
**\$7500 OFF MSRP**  
0% APR 60 MONTHS ON APPROVED CREDIT

Parker Robb Discount \$5,500  
GM Rebate \$2,000  
Net Savings \$7,500  
3 of this savings #153925, #136276, #130817

**2003 TAHOE 4x4 LT**  
**\$6000 OFF MSRP**  
0% APR 60 MONTHS ON APPROVED CREDIT

Parker Robb Discount \$4,000  
GM Rebate \$2,000  
Net Savings \$6,000  
1 of this savings #146825

**BUICK**

**NEW '02 REGALS**

Sale Price \$21,467  
GM Rebate -\$2,000  
Net Price \$19,467

**\$6000 OFF MSRP**  
2 at this price #294792, #292157

**GM Certified USED VEHICLES**

**'99 SATURN SL SEDAN**  
Air, Stereo #15274  
**\$5,995**

**'02 CHEV. CAVALIER SDN.**  
Warranty, Air, Auto. #126891  
**\$8,995**

**'02 BUICK CENTURY CUSTOM**  
Warranty, Air, 1 Locks  
**\$11,900**

**'00 SUBURBAN LT 4X4**  
Low Miles. #119655  
**\$30,500**

**'02 CHEV. BLAZER 4X4**  
Warranty #222472  
**\$16,900**

**'01 CHEV. CAMARO Z28**  
T-Top, Warranty #119850  
**\$21,500**

**'99 CHEV. TAHOE 4X4**  
Spot Loaded #35060  
**\$21,535**

**1-888-222-3840**

**ALL USED COME WITH A WARRANTY**

**www.PARKERROBB.com**

**CHEVROLET**  
[www.parkerrobb.com](http://www.parkerrobb.com)

**1707 N. MAIN ST., WALNUT CREEK**

All prices subject to prior sale & stock on hand. Prices as listed. No other fees. \*On approved credit. \*On select models. \*Sole prices & savings from MSRP. All prices plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge. Vehicles are for illustration purposes only.



# 1962 Mack dump truck gets a tender, loving overhaul and new paint job

MOTOR MATTERS

From 1953 through 1966, Mack built Model B61 durable trucks that towed trailers, delivered ready-mix concrete and carried loads as dump trucks. They featured a bulldog atop the radiator shell.

Before graduating from the University of Maryland in 1977, Bill Wilkinson spent his summers wrestling the three-spoke, 22-inch-diameter steering wheel of a 10-wheel Mack dump truck.

"That's when I fell in love with the B," Wilkinson says 25 years later.

Now that he travels throughout the Tidewater area selling propane equipment, he keeps his commercial driver's license current in case he has to demonstrate a propane truck.

Another truck aficionado and friend, Eddie Jappell, bought a used 10-wheel 1962 Mack B61 tractor with two live rear ends driving all eight rear wheels. Wilkinson persuaded Jappell to sell the Mack to him in the summer of 2000.

"It needed some cosmetic help," Wilkinson remembers of the maroon truck with black fenders.

The Mack, with a gross vehicle weight rating of 52,000 pounds, had a 170-horsepower, six-cylinder Thermodyne diesel engine under the

**VERN PARKER**  
Classic Classics

hood. Power was transferred to the eight-drive wheels through a 15-speed triplex gearbox.

Wilkinson had no intention of ever towing a commercial trailer, so the greasy fifth wheel was removed and that area between the tandem dual wheels was covered with a shiny sheet of diamond-plate aluminum. Form-fitting fenders made from the same material cover each set of four-drive wheels.

To accommodate the occasional need to tow an antique car on a small trailer, Wilkinson welded a Class III hitch at the usual bumper height.

A more powerful 237-horsepower, six-cylinder Maxidyne diesel engine was recovered from a wrecked late 1980s Model R Mack. It was turbocharged, requiring Wilkinson to install the external air breather on the right side of the cab to provide the required extra air.

Because hauling heavy loads wasn't going to be in the Mack's future, all the gears in the original transmission weren't needed, so it was replaced by a straight five-speed transmission, which means

less gear shifting and double clutching both up and down.

"With no overdrive," Wilkinson said, "60 is about tops." The speedometer tops out at 80 mph.

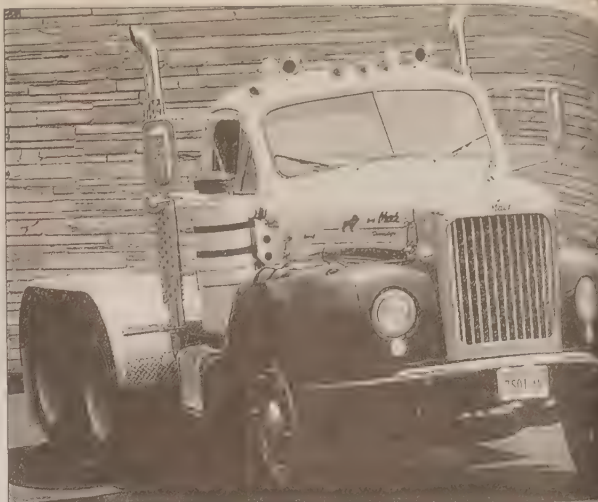
Before repainting the dashboard green, the color shared by all B Models, Wilkinson had the tachometer, speedometer, fuel gauge and cardboard headliner replaced. All the windows were replaced, and new chrome and stainless brightwork was installed after the body was painted a brighter-than-bright yellow.

The front fenders and chassis were done in gloss black, with the twin 45-gallon saddle fuel tanks painted fire-engine red.

There is now a satisfying sound coming from the two vertical 10-foot-tall exhaust stacks, each one 5 inches in diameter. Wilkinson exclaims, "This truck delivers me to where I want to be!"

The Mack sold new for about \$18,000, according to Wilkinson. It came with a vinyl-covered seat, air brakes, two air vents above and behind the fenders, and a heater.

Five amber clearance lights march across the top of the cab above the two-piece windshield. Behind them are two 18-inch-long chrome air horns, which Wilkinson is happy to honk whenever a



**THIS RESTORED 1962 Mack pickup truck needed a major cosmetic makeover when purchased by the present owner in 2000.**

youngster in a passing car makes the universally recognized request by pumping his arm.

"It takes me back to a simpler time," he said.

Because the 19 1/2-foot-long tractor has no heavy trailer to hold down the rear wheels, he remarks, "It lets you know what type road you're on."

He plans to remove a few of the

10 leaves in both rear leaf springs. To further enhance the ride quality, he also hopes to replace the 10.00 R 22-inch recapped tube-type tires with 11.00 R 24.5-inch tubeless tires.

Wilkinson was somewhat intimidated by the size of the truck when he started the restoration project. However, with the help and en-

couragement of Jappell, he realized he only needed jacks and bigger wrenches when he was working on the

"This truck," he says.

If you have a vehicle to "Classic Classics" to Motor Matters, 4035 Wilmington, DE 19806-4119, call its merits.



MOTOR MATTERS

**HONDA DESIGNED** the new Element to meet the needs of buyers who want to haul lots of sports gear but don't want a huge vehicle.

## Honda Element: Lots of cargo room

The 2003 Honda Element accommodates a new generation of vehicle buyer who seeks room for bulky items like big sports gear but doesn't want a pickup truck or a large, expensive SUV.

Wrapped in a compact and durable exterior, Element has loads of cargo room while offering refinement, value, economy and performance.

Elements package makes it road-trip capable, campground friendly and adaptable to people on the move — whether it's from an apartment to ocean, mountain to dorm, or somewhere in-between.

**Deerly beloved:** Each year, car collisions with deer account for more than 200 human and 1.4 million deer fatalities.

October through December is the highest season for the accidents, since it's a time for both wandering deer and holiday travelers.

Be alert if you see one deer, because there are often more nearby. Deer crossing signs warrant drivers' attention because they are placed in areas where deer congregate and migrate.

**SPARE PARTS**  
Motor Matters

**Used car bargains:** Even though the no-interest new-car financing opportunities are beginning to slow, previous sales of new cars has left an overflow of used cars on the market.

Nationwide, used vehicle prices have dropped 3.4 percent in the past 12 months and 5.2 percent since the beginning of the year, according to the Manheim Used Vehicle Index.

The result is a glut of used vehicles jamming dealers' lots, resulting in low prices.

**The winner:** During the past four NASCAR seasons, Pontiac has become a major player by winning 30 races during that span.

Last month, Grand Prix driver Tony Stewart began his reign as NASCAR's newest Winston Cup Champion, allowing Pontiac to savor its fourth-ever title and second in the past three seasons.

Stewart's title is the 35th crown

for General Motors since NASCAR began honoring its champions in 1949. GM participates with Chevrolet and Pontiac brands.

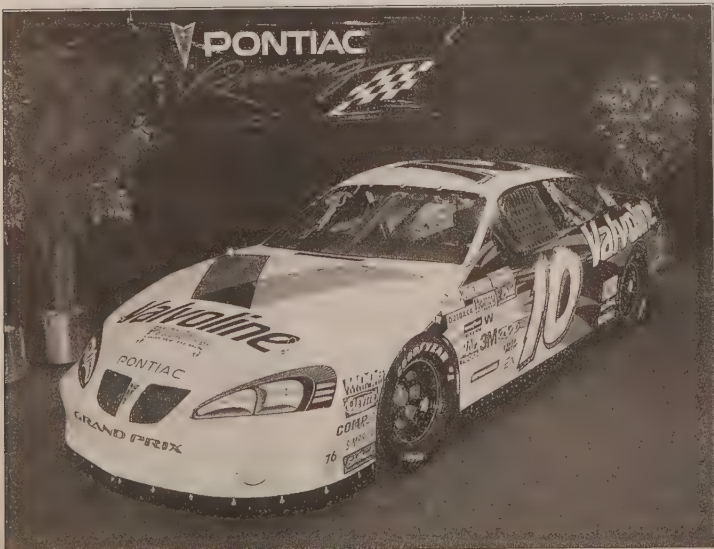
**Hidden cost:** Insurance prices should be a consideration when purchasing a new vehicle, as the vehicle's characteristics have a large influence on insurance rates.

Factors of weight, cost of the vehicle, and the body type are considerations in determining rates, according to Progressive Insurance Co.

In general, more expensive and heavier vehicles cost more to insure. In addition, two-door vehicles, including convertibles, can also cost more to insure than four-door sedans.

**Good news:** U.S. consumer confidence rose more than expected in November, indicating that shoppers may help the economy overcome a decline in manufacturing.

The University of Michigan said its preliminary sentiment index increased to 85 from 80.6 last month, while the Federal Reserve said industrial production fell 0.8 percent in October.



MOTOR MATTERS

**GENERAL MOTORS** recently captured its 35th NASCAR Winston Cup championship with a Pontiac driven by Tony Stewart. This is Pontiac's second title in the past three seasons, and fourth overall.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

## CONNELL NISSAN DISCOUNT CENTER

the next big thing

NISSAN NATIONAL YEAR END EVENT

**TEST DRIVE THE NEW MURANO**

**2002 NISSAN FRONTIER**

King Cab

1 @ this price #15542/367612

Sale Price \$12,200  
Rebate \$1,300  
**NET \$10,900**

**2002 NISSAN SENTRA XE**

A/C

1 @ this price #15765/755125

Sale Price \$11,800  
Rebate \$800  
**NET \$10,980**

**2003 MAXIMA SE**

Roof

1 @ this price #15646/518532

Sale Price \$24,800  
Rebate \$1,800  
**NET \$23,000**

**2003 PATHFINDER SE**

1 @ this price #15614/703948

Sale Price \$24,800  
Rebate \$1,800  
**NET \$23,000**

**www.EastBayTruckCenter.com**  
**CONNELL NISSAN**  
3000 & 3001 Broadway At 30th St., Oakland  
**800-513-9788**

All discounts exclude taxes and license fees. All prices are subject to change without notice. All prices are subject to credit review. All prices are subject to change without notice. All prices are subject to change without notice. All prices are subject to change without notice.



# Home & Business Services

FOR  
MORE  
CLASSIFIED  
LEASE  
SEE  
PAGE  
11B

## 561 Garden and Yard & Services

**ALL SEASONS**  
510-653-0445  
David Singer  
Yardwork, New Lawns, Ret. W. & W. Wood Removal, Fences, Rotting/Hauling, References & Insured

All Cleanup & Hauling  
Mant. Unit. 925/764-3212

**LOW RATES**  
BETTER GARDENS  
MAKES BETTER HOMES

Mimi's Landscaping  
Design, install, consultation, upgrade existing  
Plans (510) 595-9030

**CALIFORNIA Landscape Construction**  
Custom stamped concrete, curbs, walkways, retaining walls, fences, gates, and more. Free estimates. 925/764-3212

**CLC CO.** Complete Landscaping. All concrete finishing, drainage system, custom stamped concrete, curbs, walkways, retaining walls, fences, gates, and more. Free estimates. 925/764-3212

**ENRIQUE Garden/Sprinkler**  
Main cleanup, hauling, irrigation, sprinkler, etc. 925/764-3212

**Evergreen Garden Co.**  
Drainage Specialist, honest reliable service, a free estimate. 925/764-3212

**GARCIA'S Landscaping**  
Sprinklers, pruning, irrigation, etc. 925/764-3212

**GARDENER 18 Years**  
Experience. Excellent references. Reasonable rates. Clean-ups & maintenance. 925/764-3212

**GARDEN GATE LANDSCAPE**  
Prof. & complete garden cleanup, design, maintenance, res. (concrete), stone, brick, patio, irrigation, etc. 925/764-3212

**Joe's Gardening Svc.**  
Lawn Care, Cleanup, Maintenance & Hauling. Free Estimates. 925/764-3212

**LORENZO'S TREE SERVICE**  
Thinning, Trimming, View Clearing & Stump Grinding. Free Estimates. 925/764-3212

**MIKE'S GARDENING**  
Hillsides, slopes, gutter cleanup, brush clear, haul, free sunc. 10m, weed, new lawn, sod, mulch, ret. wall, post holes, maint., remove roots. Refs. fully insured. Free est. 925/764-3212

**LOW RATES**  
QUICK & HANDY CLASSIFIED

**Garage Sale Man/Woman**  
CALL 925-764-3212

## 561 Garden and Yard & Services

**NOTABLE GARDENER**  
Quality garden design, construction, maintenance. Reasonable rates. References available. 925/764-3212

**Professional Gardener**  
College certified. Maintenance, clean-ups, drip irrigation and plant spraying. Affordable. 925/764-3212

**BANCHEZ grdn./cleanup**  
We do all that you need free est. unit. 925/764-3212

**VAN'S GARDENING**  
610-885-1340  
General Yard Work. Maintenance, service. Clean-up, lawn, planting. Please call any time. For Free Estimates.

**YORN LANDSCAPING**  
Maint. install & repair. Irrigation, sod laying, fencing, ret. walls, tree cutting. 925/764-3212

**562 Handyman**  
At Reasonable Price. Paint, drywall, carpentry, plumbing, etc. 925/764-3212

**Honey Do Repair & Chimey Co.**  
O Chimneys  
O Gutters  
O Home Repairs  
O Remodeling  
License #12062  
531-9500

**Always...the Best HOME REPAIRS**  
25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Carpentry, Plumbing, Electrical, Tile, Paint, Decks, Doors, Fences & more! All Repairs Remodels Tool Lic #13035

**339-1616**  
Retired/Prody Gien

**ALL HOME REPAIR**  
Carpentry, remodeling, plumbing, decks, drywall, etc. 925/764-3212

**CLASSIFIED!**  
The only shopping center where you can find a little of everything

## 562 Handyman

**ALL SEASONS**  
Handyman Services  
Indoor/Outdoor Painting, Wood Floors, Fences, Concrete Work, etc. Great Local Refs. unit. David Singer 510-653-0445

**BUDGET Handyman Svcs.**  
Home repairs, etc. 925/764-3212

**DIAMOND HOME REPAIR**  
All Jobs, Visa/MasterCard. 925/764-3212

**Elie's Home Repair**  
Carpentry/Elec./Paint/Plumb. Insured. 925/764-3212

**HANDYMAN:** elec. plumbing, ceramic tile, fences, etc. 25 yrs. exp. unit. Robert 925/764-3212

**HANDYMAN, Lat. res. Sm. jobs.** paint, moldings, carpentry, etc. 925/764-3212

**HANDYMAN:** The install. plumbing, 25 years exp. (925) 767-2325 unit.

**HOME REPAIR**  
At Reasonable Price. Paint, drywall, carpentry, plumbing, etc. 925/764-3212

**HOME REPAIR, Carpentry, plumbing, electrical, paint.** Unit. Brian 925/764-3212

**MR. HANDYMAN**  
Int./Ext. Home Repair. Exp'd. & Ins. Lic. #907495. The Professional Choice. 925-228-2888

**563 Hauling**  
NOTICE: Advertisers offering Hauling Services are not required to have a license, however, moving of household goods from residence to residence requires Public Utility Commission licensing. For information on licensing, contact the P.U.C. at 1-800-368-4782.

**AMERICAN HAULING**  
Dump runs, cleanups, appliances, etc. Same day service. Free estimates. Call Kevin. (510) 220-3585

**HAULING**  
SAME DAY SERVICE. ALL ALAMEDA & OAKLAND. All Jobs. 510-290-3304

**510-521-8533**  
A CORNER Project. A clean & sober non profit grp. Haul debris, clean yd., give tax donation, recycle, usable goods. Feel good helping others. 510-224-2794

**MS. BRASILE'S HOUSECLEANING**  
Wkly. Bi-Wkly. One Time. Honest, Reliable, Exp'd. & Good References. Please Call. Rosalind 510-235-4891

**565A Housecleaning Services**  
RESPONSIBLE Adult. Good refs., pets & plants my specialty. Reasonable rates. Call Kirby 510-833-4388

## 563 Hauling

**PIEDMONT MONTCLAIR**  
HAUL MOST THINGS DAILY  
PETER VAN DEUSEN  
(510) 339-1019

**David's Hauling**  
See us at our **FAST HAUL**  
New name, same great service since 1983  
★ 510-653-0445 ★

**1-800-GOT-JUNK?**  
North America's Largest Junk Removal Service. On-Time. Swift. No Frills. 1-800-468-5895  
www.1800gotjunk.com

**J & J HAULING**  
Dirt, concrete, roof, tree & foundation removal, grading, trenching/excavation/demolition. Landscaping. Full Bobcat service. Yard cleanup. Refs & Comm. Free est. 925/764-3212

**ANDRE'S HAULING**  
All types demolition. Prompt friendly Service. "You call, I haul!"  
510-622-6880

**Alameda Hauling & Eric's Home Svcs.**  
Hauling, handyman, dump runs. Labor for any job. Free est. (510) 331-0552

**RENE'S HAULING**  
Construction Debris. Overgrown Vegetation. Quality Cleaning. Honest & Reliable Service. Call (510) 367-5595

**COLLEGE EDUCATED**  
woman seeking clients for housecleaning. Excellent refs. Dependable. Call Emily (510) 703-1093

**DAWN'S RES. & Move**  
In/Out moving, cleaning, 925/764-3212

**FREE ESTIMATE**  
BAY PAINTING

**Cabinet Specialist**  
Refinishing, int./ext. painting, texturing & taping. Lic. 349454 925/280-6750

**\* CATALDO \* Painting & Restoration**  
SAVE NOW! SPECIAL WINTER RATES. Free Color Consultation. Fully Insured. #309090 510/483-7014

**DAVID AYERS Painting**  
Quality is key. Free estimate. 925/764-3212

**D Carlos Painting Co.**  
Full Service Painting. Home-Apartments, Corridors, Drywall Repair, Taping, Texturing, Home Repairs, Cabinet Refinishing, Gutter or Waterproofing. #450885 Call (510) 281-3298

**RESIDENTIAL Painting & Gutter Refinishing.** Prof. Ref. 24yr exp. unit. 925/764-3212

## 563 Hauling

**NLS HAULING:**  
Bobcat work/excavating, demolition/demolition, removal. #786293 510/236-4315  
• AARON'S HAULING • Reliable. Low cost. All kinds. 925/764-3212

**You Call-We Haul**  
7 days. 925-383-7829.

**COMPLETE hauling, dirt, concrete, brush & more.** Open 24/7 (925) 458-6818

**564 Health Services**  
MASSAGE Holiday Special. Walnut Creek. CALL 925/274-1208

**565 Housekeeping & Home Services**  
ANDREA'S HOUSECLEANING  
We have the best & affordable services for your convenience. Please call for free est. (510) 969-1531

**ARTISTIC TOUCH**  
Housecleaning, EUCO cleaning. Call Alisa. (925) 287-1557

**BEATRICE Housecleaning**  
Sinc. excel. refs. reasonable rates. 925/764-3212

**CENTRAL American Cleaning.**  
We do housecleaning, gardening, painting, skilled trades. Unit. Call Lic. 510-633-8140

**COLLEGE EDUCATED**  
woman seeking clients for housecleaning. Excellent refs. Dependable. Call Emily (510) 703-1093

**DAWN'S RES. & Move**  
In/Out moving, cleaning, 925/764-3212

**FREE ESTIMATE**  
BAY PAINTING

**Cabinet Specialist**  
Refinishing, int./ext. painting, texturing & taping. Lic. 349454 925/280-6750

**\* CATALDO \* Painting & Restoration**  
SAVE NOW! SPECIAL WINTER RATES. Free Color Consultation. Fully Insured. #309090 510/483-7014

**DAVID AYERS Painting**  
Quality is key. Free estimate. 925/764-3212

**D Carlos Painting Co.**  
Full Service Painting. Home-Apartments, Corridors, Drywall Repair, Taping, Texturing, Home Repairs, Cabinet Refinishing, Gutter or Waterproofing. #450885 Call (510) 281-3298

**RESIDENTIAL Painting & Gutter Refinishing.** Prof. Ref. 24yr exp. unit. 925/764-3212

## 566 Legal Services

**AUTO Accident Injuries**  
Hire expert, personal attn. After all, it's YOUR injury, but it wasn't your fault. Attorney Mark 800-896-5559

**566A Licensed Contractors**  
BUDGET CONST. CO.  
Deck/Fen./Earthquake ret. Drainage-Retain walls & More. 510-848-6181, #707584

**HOUSE PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior. Job done the way you want. 16 yrs. exp. excels. refs. Lic. #42437 bonded. Richard (510) 548-9109

**MICHAEL GUILTY PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior. Specialists. Quality preparation, restoration, waterproofing. #450885 (510) 825-8184

**PAINT INTER. 589/m**  
Exterior. 16 yrs. exp. 925/764-3212

**THE PAINT COMPANY**  
Interior/Exterior • Finest Prep-work • Waterproofing • Color Consultant • Residential/Commercial • Free Estimates • Insured • All Work Guaranteed. Lic. #515120  
510-522-2673

**ABA Prof. Painting, in & out.**  
cabinets, texture, Refs. 1-day free est. 925/558-2363  
www.abapainting.com  
Mit/925/250/3817 #768220

**FREE ESTIMATE**  
BAY PAINTING

**Cabinet Specialist**  
Refinishing, int./ext. painting, texturing & taping. Lic. 349454 925/280-6750

**\* CATALDO \* Painting & Restoration**  
SAVE NOW! SPECIAL WINTER RATES. Free Color Consultation. Fully Insured. #309090 510/483-7014

**DAVID AYERS Painting**  
Quality is key. Free estimate. 925/764-3212

**D Carlos Painting Co.**  
Full Service Painting. Home-Apartments, Corridors, Drywall Repair, Taping, Texturing, Home Repairs, Cabinet Refinishing, Gutter or Waterproofing. #450885 Call (510) 281-3298

**RESIDENTIAL Painting & Gutter Refinishing.** Prof. Ref. 24yr exp. unit. 925/764-3212

## 569 Painting & Wallpaper

**D N PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior. Great Value. References. Free Estimates. Lic. #14040  
510/632-2831

**FIX IT, Prep It, Paint It.**  
Grt. rates inter./ext. #742957  
Call Kevin (925) 767-6584

**HOUSE PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior. Job done the way you want. 16 yrs. exp. excels. refs. Lic. #42437 bonded. Richard (510) 548-9109

**MICHAEL GUILTY PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior. Specialists. Quality preparation, restoration, waterproofing. #450885 (510) 825-8184

**PAINT INTER. 589/m**  
Exterior. 16 yrs. exp. 925/764-3212

**THE PAINT COMPANY**  
Interior/Exterior • Finest Prep-work • Waterproofing • Color Consultant • Residential/Commercial • Free Estimates • Insured • All Work Guaranteed. Lic. #515120  
510-522-2673

**ABA Prof. Painting, in & out.**  
cabinets, texture, Refs. 1-day free est. 925/558-2363  
www.abapainting.com  
Mit/925/250/3817 #768220

**FREE ESTIMATE**  
BAY PAINTING

**Cabinet Specialist**  
Refinishing, int./ext. painting, texturing & taping. Lic. 349454 925/280-6750

**\* CATALDO \* Painting & Restoration**  
SAVE NOW! SPECIAL WINTER RATES. Free Color Consultation. Fully Insured. #309090 510/483-7014

**DAVID AYERS Painting**  
Quality is key. Free estimate. 925/764-3212

**D Carlos Painting Co.**  
Full Service Painting. Home-Apartments, Corridors, Drywall Repair, Taping, Texturing, Home Repairs, Cabinet Refinishing, Gutter or Waterproofing. #450885 Call (510) 281-3298

**RESIDENTIAL Painting & Gutter Refinishing.** Prof. Ref. 24yr exp. unit. 925/764-3212

## 572 Roofing & Gutters

**COLLINS ROOFING**  
1610 925/711  
Family Owned & Operated. FREE ESTIMATE. QUALITY WORK. REASONABLE RATES! Call (510) 482-2227

**AA ROOFING**  
#873931  
Leak Repair/New roofs. 20 yrs. of refs. Gutter work. 925/548/7903 925/777/61

**ABSOLUTE Best Service**  
res. comm. roofing repair. #799552 (925) 932-2959

**ALL CLEAN GUTTERS**  
Cleaning & repairs. Unit. 925/777-6313 925/457-9069

**A Sunset Gutters**  
10 yrs. excel. service. Rain gutter & roof cleaning. Free Est. (510) 601-6393

**COLLINS ROOFING**  
Roof Repair & Gutter Cleaning. Lic. #5951  
510-653-2843

**D N GUTTER & ROOF CLEANING**  
Serge D. Service. Free Estimate. Lic. #14040  
510/632-2931

**Douglas Roof Repair**  
All types of maintenance & repairs. All types of flashing detail. 30 yrs. in the Bay Area. Lic. #757253  
(510) 538-6920

**E-Z RAIN GUTTERS INC.**  
SEAMLESS. Replace Repair, Cleaning. Lic. #69524 insured. Reasonable rates. Free est. Zui (510) 548-5304

**FORBES PLUMBING**  
Remodel & Repairs. New Construction. Hydronic Heating. Lic. #482667

**AFFORDABLE PLUMBING**  
Recuping & Remodeling. Bonded & insured. Lic. #10840 925-705-9028

**FREE ESTIMATE**  
BAY PAINTING

**Cabinet Specialist**  
Refinishing, int./ext. painting, texturing & taping. Lic. 349454 925/280-6750

**\* CATALDO \* Painting & Restoration**  
SAVE NOW! SPECIAL WINTER RATES. Free Color Consultation. Fully Insured. #309090 510/483-7014

**DAVID AYERS Painting**  
Quality is key. Free estimate. 925/764-3212

**D Carlos Painting Co.**  
Full Service Painting. Home-Apartments, Corridors, Drywall Repair, Taping, Texturing, Home Repairs, Cabinet Refinishing, Gutter or Waterproofing. #450885 Call (510) 281-3298

**RESIDENTIAL Painting & Gutter Refinishing.** Prof. Ref. 24yr exp. unit. 925/764-3212

## 573 Telephone & Communication Services

**PHONE JACKS** installed & repaired. Ref. by exp'd. installer. (925) 432-1305  
FOR All Phone & Cable Needs, Call Mike at. Live Wire 925-228-3504

**574 Tree Services**  
COASTAL TREE  
Certified Arborist WC-1168. Removal/abatement/trimming. Free Estimate. Fully insured. (510) 824-1007

**ARBOR WORKS**  
Full service tree care. Quality pruning. Certified arborist. 25 yrs. exp. WC-3885. Free est. Gutter installation. 510-530-8246

**A Careful Tree Service**  
Certified Arborist #4293. Trimming, removals, free estimates, references. 510-339-1488

**Call Jesse's Tree Serv.**  
Complete Tree Service. Bonded Ins. Lic. #757244. Free est. ins. 925-225-2217 unit.

**REASONABLE**  
C&B TREE SERVICE. Local service since 1975. Trimming, removal, insurance. Non lic. Free est. Ins. 510-530-2243

**JOSE'S TREE SERVICE**  
Complete Tree Service. Unit. 925-681-2365

**LOUIS TREE SERVICE**  
COMPLETE TREE SERV. Stump removal. Free est. ins. unit. (925) 250-1602

**MARTINEZ TREE SERV.**  
Complete tree serv. Free est. ins. Unit. Free est. ins. Carlos, (925) 766-5855

**NO STUMP too big or small.**  
Free est. #642212. 925/673-1597 250-0334

**WILDWOOD TREE**  
Free Estimate. C. Aronoff WC1168. Pruning, View Work, removals. Bonded Ins. Lic. #757244. 510-967-5910

**575A Upholstery**  
UPHOLSTERY  
Furniture • Cushions  
26 Yrs. Great fabric selections. Pick-up/drop. Free est. Gresham, 510-465-7031

**576 Window Services**  
ANDREAS NOCZYNSKI WINDOW CLEANING  
Mirrors, skylights. High Windows and more. Gutters. Licensed. 510-655-0724

East Bay resident ISO interested, attractive, witty, creative, reliable weekly companion to share local news, current events, restaurants, performing arts, etc. LTR.

Have we got a match for you!

The Hills Newspapers: The Montclair, The Piedmonter, Berkeley Voice, El Cerrito Journal, Alameda Journal.

It's what you've been looking for in a local newspaper.

We'll be at your house every week - and once you're done with us, we don't mind being dumped (in the recycling bin).

More ads, more choice, more results inside your new, improved Hills Classifieds



Cruising for a car? Hunting for a home? Pursuing a position? Searching for savings?

Now you can select from thousands of ads instead of just a few. Your new, improved Classifieds includes the expansive Contra Costa Times marketplace - giving you more inventory, more listings, more jobs, more private party ads. Plus: you can find classifieds online at [www.contracostatimes.com](http://www.contracostatimes.com)

To place an ad, call 339-8777.  
For Alameda call 748-1667.

Classifieds



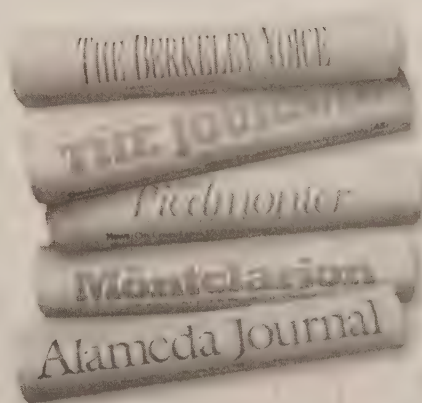
# IT'S HERE!

## Your classifieds are now bigger and better!

That means more ads, more choices, more results!  
Look for these new and improved benefits:

- *New, easy-to-read format*
- *Easy search classification*
- *Online searching*
- *More inventory, more ads*

**To place your ad, call 339-8777.  
For Alameda call 748-1667.**




# Classifieds

**More ads, more choice, more results**



**The best and largest classified section in the greater East Bay Area**

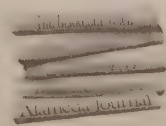
re jobs,  
eds



**Cruising for a car?      Hunting for a home?      Pursuing a position?      Searching for savings?**

**Now you can select from thousands of ads instead of just a few. Your new, improved Classifieds includes the expansive Contra Costa Times marketplace – giving you more inventory, more listings, more jobs, more private party ads. Plus: you can find classifieds online at [www.contracostatimes.com](http://www.contracostatimes.com)**

**To place an ad, call 339-8777.  
For Alameda call 748-1667.**



**Classifieds**











# The Auto Section

## 802 Farm Equipment

**JOHN DEERE:**  
Harvest Rental Return:  
Compact tractors. Now  
Available. 20 P.T.O. HP &  
up. New warranty.  
Low rate financing.  
1-800-487-7140

KUBOTA 34 H-P 4x4, load-  
er, 3 P.T.O. shuttle, tires, 5  
scraper. Excel. \$10,500.  
Kubota 20 HP 4x4 loader, 3  
P.T.O. scraper, mnt. \$7000.  
Call 609-639-9000

## 803 Heavy Equipment

(2) 753 BOBCATS w/low hrs  
\$2,500 (2) 953 BOBCATS  
\$20,000 (953) 367-7833

TOYOTA FORKLIFT. oad  
rate 5000 lbs. propane.  
\$3700. (925) 766-2252

## 805 Vehicle Parts & Repair

BEDLNER, 68-93 Dodge  
LB, w/air, 100,000 miles.  
16" GM 15. \$655-57-0838

PG GOODRICH all terrain, 32  
X 11.50 X 15. New \$395  
TOYOTA Fac. alum. 4x4  
rims. \$300. 925/835/2624

CHEVROLET 1988-99 truck  
parts, axles, tires, fuses.  
925-382-7448

## EXPRESS LUBE PLUS

No apt. needed. \$54.95  
per oil change. 925-7448  
Exp. 12/31/02

## TOYOTA WALNUT CREEK

MUSTANG 64's, 60's, 4000  
cbs, parking lot.  
Bentley 707/45-8148

BACK  
New, 51 Dodge Dakota.  
\$250. (925) 439-3188

3RD SEAT 68-71 Subur-  
ban 3350. 88 Ford Diesel  
Starter 925-284-8511

## 807 Boats & Services

BASS TRUCK, T-V17, 40  
Mort. 2 dph. extras.  
\$6500 707/745-6434

BOSTON WHALER 1971  
w/air, 70 HP Johnson motor.  
Lots of extras \$5000  
firm. (925) 254-4269

31 FISHERCRAFT 30' new  
boat, runs gd., nbs title  
\$10000 925/642-8705

1991 FOURWINNS 190  
Freedom, like new, only  
255 hrs. Asking \$5000.  
Call for details 925-754-9432

## NORTHERN California

## BOAT SHOW

**BIGGEST NOR-CAL  
BOAT SHOW EVER!**  
"900 BOATS"  
Power & Sail, 9 to 50'  
Marine Accessories  
1/4 MILLION SQ. FT.  
OF DISPLAYS  
Jan 24-Feb 2nd  
Alameda County  
Fairgrounds Pleasanton  
800-698-9777

1960 OWENS 26' 351,  
Sleeps 4, runs grt. Must  
Sell \$1000 925-240-0584

23 & 50' POWER BOATS  
Priced to sell fast! Will trade  
anything. 925-684-3720

## SAFE BOATING CLASS

U.S. Power Squadrons.  
5-2 hr. nights, 4 cities.  
(925) 377-3249

SKI-WAKEBOAT-FISH-BOATS  
hammers. (707) 763-7086

## 807 Boats & Services

31' TROJAN cabin cruiser,  
twin eng., must sell make  
off. Owner has 2 boats -  
nds it sold 925-872-7285

30' TROJAN cabin cruiser  
1982. Twin eng. equipped.  
Best Offer. (925) 458-8776

## 808 Campers, Recreational Vehicles & Service

**Coleman**  
Camping Trailers

## Alpine Recreation

New & Used

Morgan Hill  
408-779-4511  
www.alpinerv.com

## RV

Alstream  
• Lincoln  
• Dethlefsen  
• Starliner  
• Jayco  
• Sunline

## MANTECA TRAILER & CAMPER

(209) 239-1267

## CAMPER SHELLS

F350, 99 & up, w/ht. excel. cond.  
\$675 (925) 979-0355

## CONTRACTOR'S Truck

1985 FIREBALL 37' 5th whl  
clean, w/ RV space avail.  
\$9,500. (707) 553-0520

## 1994 N.J.-WA. hitchhiker

5th wheel - 28' rear x 1  
loads, 6000lb. sleeps 6  
925-944-1274 for \$16,000

## SNUGTOP Snuglid White

fits F250/F350 Long Bed  
w/air, nbs, 5000 new-5000  
obo 925-200-3639

## TOYOTA 1979 RV, 38k on

mi., self contains, w/air  
great! \$3,000 925/299/6941

## 1984 Honda CR250

clean, stock, \$3200 obo.  
\$3300 obo 925-260-6833

## Honda 1975 CR500

super clean, stock, \$3200 obo.  
\$3300 obo 925-260-6833

## Honda 1983 Goldwing

new tires, nbs, some work.  
\$1,000 925-769-8650

## Honda 1975 CR500

5K, \$1000obo, 67 Honda  
CR500 925-260-6833

## KAWASAKI 2001 KX250

triple clamp, tag bars, Pro  
\$1000 925-260-6833

## KAWASAKI 2000 KX80

HR5 FIVE, Graphics \$2,500  
FIRM. (925) 925-5010

## MINI BKE 2001, low miles

run 11500 5375  
\$10,000 1489 w/ tag

## SUZUKI 2000 J650 \$1K, 75k

Honda XR75 5650, 250  
6603, all obo 925-858-0774

## YAMAHA 2000 YZ450

2000, 2002 YZ450 \$5000  
2001 YZ450 \$4000, 3 rail  
\$4500 (925) 381-5168

## YAMAHA 2002 YZF-R6

stroke Excel, cond. 90 hrs.  
\$15,000 925/827-2797

## YAMAHA 2002 PW50

WITH GEAR \$1000  
YAMAHA TT990 w/ tag, 75k  
mi., perfect cond. \$7500.  
\$2512-2572

## DODGE 1977 Lindy 19ft.

Great cond new, great  
clean inter. runs great  
\$4800 obo (510) 925-3662

## CONSIGNMENTS WANTED

Motorhome, RV, Autos. No  
fee. SP RV, (510) 223-7778

## 810 Motorhomes

DODGE 1976 OVERLAND  
26' 440, alc. gen. micro  
new tires, nbs. \$15,000  
\$4500 obo 925-372-3614

HOL DAY RAMBLER 1993  
26ft 11,000 mi. 13hrs on  
gen. great coach stored in  
Pond 927,000. Not only  
510/99-7454 Dodge or Ram

## '97 RIALTA 22' Class B 18

MHG CO. ow nbs, pristine  
\$31,500 (925) 685-9219

## SOUTHWIND 2000, 32'

Amer. Flag V mod, v10,  
new, stock, 12000  
7800 mi. \$65,000 obo  
925/947-4964

## 811 Motorcycles & Services

HARLEY 2000 Ultra Classic  
Electra Glide with the bells  
& whistles, nbs. \$4000  
fact plant job, Harley Stage  
100 w/ ext. warr. \$22,500  
w/ht. (925) 362-4476

## HARLEY 2001 2000 cust.

\$5000 925/443-3104

## HARLEY 1999 Night Train

low hrs, like new, cust. nbs.  
\$15,000 925/328-3828

## HARLEY 1993 FXDL SE

equip. four, cvt, bags, etc.  
never down or abused, low  
miles, easy to list. Low  
mi. o/g owner. \$15,000  
\$15,000 925/685-9754

## HONDA 2002 CR500 Export

low hrs, extras, 21500  
\$10734-7154

## HONDA 2002 CR450

Brand New, excel. cond.  
\$3300 obo 925-260-6833

## Honda 2000 XR100 \$1600

Honda XR100 \$1600  
\$3300 obo 925-260-6833

## Honda 1995 CR500 super

clean, stock, \$3200 obo.  
\$3300 obo 925-260-6833

## Honda 1989 Goldwing

5K, 44k, reverse, AM/FM,  
CR radio, air, exc. excellent  
\$15,000 925/443-3104

## Honda 1983 Goldwing

new tires, nbs, some work.  
\$1,000 925-769-8650

## Honda 1975 CR500

5K, \$1000obo, 67 Honda  
CR500 925-260-6833

## KAWASAKI 2001 KX250

triple clamp, tag bars, Pro  
\$1000 925-260-6833

## KAWASAKI 2000 KX80

HR5 FIVE, Graphics \$2,500  
FIRM. (925) 925-5010

## MINI BKE 2001, low miles

run 11500 5375  
\$10,000 1489 w/ tag

## SUZUKI 2000 J650 \$1K, 75k

Honda XR75 5650, 250  
6603, all obo 925-858-0774

## YAMAHA 2000 YZ450

2000, 2002 YZ450 \$5000  
2001 YZ450 \$4000, 3 rail  
\$4500 (925) 381-5168

## YAMAHA 2002 YZF-R6

stroke Excel, cond. 90 hrs.  
\$15,000 925/827-2797

## YAMAHA 2002 PW50

WITH GEAR \$1000  
YAMAHA TT990 w/ tag, 75k  
mi., perfect cond. \$7500.  
\$2512-2572

## DODGE 1977 Lindy 19ft.

Great cond new, great  
clean inter. runs great  
\$4800 obo (510) 925-3662

## 811 Motorcycles & Services

YAMAHA 2000 R6 custom  
paint, nbs. \$6600 OBO  
510/610-0070

YAMAHA 2000 650 V-Star  
mint/low mi. Mediant ride  
\$5200 obo 925-439-8833

## YAMAHA 1998 YZ125

excel. cond. p/b circuit  
p/p \$2000 925/475-8239

## YAMAHA 1992 PW50, nbs

stared, nbs. \$2000 obo  
\$2000 obo (925) 972-5121

## 812 Vehicles Wanted

## American Lung Association

Donate your car, boat, truck,  
RV, etc. Earn fair market  
value for your donation.  
Make your donation to the  
people you know & trust.

## AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

of East Bay-Solano

## 1-800-LUNG-USA

925-935-0473/Eves  
Weekend Appraisals  
1-877-625-4222

## CALL US FIRST!

DONATE YOUR CAR!

## Tri Valley Youth Services

• Free immediate towing  
• Tax Deductible  
• Running car apply  
• CARS FOR SALE AT:  
www.donations.com  
(800) 840-4443

## CHILDREN & FAMILY

Crisis help lines & crisis  
programs serving C.C. Co.  
Donate car/boat/truck  
Sunny day, Inc. Tax Ded. I.  
Call (925) 284-2207  
Keep Your Charity Local

## LIONS CENTER

FOR THE BLIND

IRS Tax Deductible. Donate  
Car, Truck, Boat, RV, etc.  
Blue Book Value Receipt  
Free Towing 510 338-3818

## SUPPORT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Donate Your Car  
Berkeley/Richmond  
Jewish Comm. Center  
510-848-0237 x112  
Fax 510-848-0170

## 55555 CASH 55555

for car/truck/van/SUV as is  
No Smog OK 925-690-1672

## 814 Trucks

DODGE 2001 1500 PU  
Quad cab, only 16,787 mi.  
\$18,000 925/708-8713

## DODGE 2000 1500 Quad

cab, 5.9L, 17k, pwr. pkg.  
only with sacrifice  
\$17,900 925-876-2650

## BRONCO 1996 XL 4T

4x4, smog 57,500, 200  
925-708-8909 984-4177

## CHEVROLET 2002 Silver

ado, 1500LS, 2WD, excel.  
\$20,500 925/323-2658

## CHEVROLET 2001 5-10 LB

X-Cab, 3rd door, V6, all  
p/s, alloy, 27k miles  
\$22,427 Exp. 12/27/2002

## TOYOTA WALNUT CREEK

(925) 933-7440

## 814 Trucks

CHEVROLET 2001 1500 LT  
Silverado, X-Cab 2WD, ext.  
warr. \$21.5K 925/938-7057

CHEVROLET 2001 Silver-  
ado 4WD, ext. cab AT  
power everything, 63k,  
with custom shell & carpet  
kit, mint cond. \$17,900 obo  
925/580-8310

## CHEVROLET 2000 S10 LB

31k, mint, bodyside, 1272  
tres. \$3500 925/681-1272

## CHEVROLET 2000 Tahoe

LT, new body style  
\$15,495

## PARKER ROSS WALNUT CREEK

1-888-212-6280

## CHEVROLET 2000 Silver

ado, 1500, excvab, long  
bed, #186001 \$25,500

## PARKER ROSS WALNUT CREEK

1-888-212-6280

## CHEVROLET 2000 Silver

ado 1500 Xcab Stepside  
ext. cab, 1500, 2000, 2001  
\$15,500 925/895-8996

## CHEVROLET 2000 Silver

ado 271 PU, 4WD, white,  
great cond. \$24,000  
obo. (925) 441-1595

## CHEVROLET 2000 S10 PU

auto air #18922 59,995

## PARKER ROSS WALNUT CREEK

1-888-212-6280

## CHEVROLET 2000 Silver

ado 1500, 2000, 2001  
\$15,500 925/895-8996

## CHEVROLET 1999 Silver

ado covered  
with stainless steel  
immac. ext. warr. Must see  
\$18,688 obo 925-626-3535

## CHEVROLET 1995 S10 LB

55K, 5800 excvab  
\$5400 925/837-0380

## CHEVROLET 1993 PU, Full

ext. cab, single first offer  
925-778-9959 or 322-3938

## CHEVROLET 1989 271

quad, amfm, CD, new tires.  
\$8000 925/626-3515

## CHEVROLET 1999 Silver

ado, excel. cond., w/whell  
\$14,500 925/626-3535

## CHEVROLET 1981 5 ton

dump truck, good condition  
\$25,000 obo. 510-734-3244

## CHEVROLET 1991 Chevy

enne loaded, sac \$3500  
Call Mike 925-254-7016

## CHEVROLET 1993 runs



*Your Best Guide to the Greater East Bay Area • Read by Over 467,000 Adults*

**817 Automobiles**

---

TOYOTA 1989 Corolla  
Wagon 5 spd AC vgd 150K  
\$1800obo 510-847-6127

---

TOYOTA 1988 Camry Le  
V6, A/T, snrl., excel. cond  
\$3500. Call (925) 787-4454

---

TOYOTA 1988 Camry LE,  
gd cond AT, AC, all pwr

TOYOTA 1987 Camry LE,  
all pwr, snrt, 1 owner, 60k  
\$4000 510/339-9661

TOYOTA 1987 MR2, 2 dr.,  
98k, 5 spd, cass., ac  
\$3950 925-432-9008

TOYOTA 1986 Celica GT  
Very Clean, loaded, 5spd  
\$2200 Cali 925-864-2530

TOYOTA 1985 MR2, 5 spd.,  
A/C excel, running cond.

TOYOTA  
For Additional  
Toyota Listings  
**CLICK ON**

VOLVO 2003 S60 2.4 Brand  
new. 0 miles. Loaded.  
\$28,900. obo 925/447/8888

VOLVO 2003 S60 2.4 Brand  
new. 0 miles. Loaded.  
\$28,900 obo. 925/447-8888

VOLVO 2000 S60 T6 Load-  
ed, excel. cond. 42K mi.,  
warr. \$25500 510/919-5227

VOLVO 2000 S70. ASR

**VOLVO 2000**  
wgn. all options, excel  
31K \$27 000 925 367-6250

---

**VOLVO 2000**  
**LOOKING FOR A  
USED VOLVO?**  
FOR A COMPLETE LIST  
INCLUDING PICTURES  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE

**LAWRENCE VOLVO**  
WALNUT CREEK  
(925) 939-3333

VOLVO 1999 S70, 4dr., A/T,  
41K, silver/gray int., excel  
\$14,900. 510/666-0146

VOLVO 1995 940 Sdn 65K,  
loaded, new tires/bks.,  
mint \$8800 510/393-3342

VOLVO 1995 850 T5R Tur-

925-261-9840; 584-4134  
VOLVO 1994 850 turbo  
excel. cond, 80K, \$8995  
Russ 925/258-8083  
VOLVO 1992 Wagon, excel  
cond., fully loaded, lthr.,  
75K, \$8300 925/963-4247  
VOLVO 1991 940T Wagon  
Runs great. Well maint  
Blu/gm, tan int. 157k  
\$4200/b. (925)673-8714

VOLVO 1990 240DL, at, ac,  
86k, all pwr., excel.  
\$4700 bo 925-827-5440

VOLVO 1990 240 Wagon  
white/blue leather, 128k  
mi., \$4500 925-427-1467

VOLVO 1990 GL740, blue  
lthr., AC, MX-CD, 130k,  
\$2700, new brks/trans/batt

VOLVO 1989 740GL: A/T  
A/C, snrfl., 85K, \$4250 OBO  
(925)838/5338 510/908/5600

VOLVO 1987 240DL, A/C,  
cass., 116K mi., clean car,  
\$2650 (510) 734-4478.

VOLVO 1986 240GL runs,  
needs wk., body gd shape  
\$800. (925) 820-2234

VOLVO 1986 240 Wagon,  
210K mi., A/T, runs good

**VOLVO**  
**For Additional**  
**Volvo Listings**

**Click On**

**New & Used**

VW 2001 Passat GLX, V6, 8K mi., perf. cond., must sell, \$22K (925) 336-1415

VW 2000 Jetta GL

**TOYOTA WALNUT CREEK**  
(925) 933-7448

VW 2000 Beetle GLS  
Turbo. 1thr, moonroof,  
Rare Find! Must See  
#433592 Exp 12/27/2002

**TOYOTA WALNUT CREEK**  
(925) 933-7448

VW 1999 BEETLE 2.0K (Turbo)

**LITHIA FORD & VW**  
**925-521-2139**  
 VW 1999 Jetta GLS VR6  
 Blk./blk., AC, AT, new tires.  
 Low mi. Ext. warr. \$16,000  
 (925) 256-6525

**VW 1998 Jetta GLS VR6**  
Auto trans, Very Low Mi.  
Like New! Must See  
#V036022 Only \$16,995

**LITHIA FORD & VW**  
925-521-2139

**VW 1998 Jetta GLS, grt**  
cond., loaded, 46K, 5 spd  
wht. \$10,000 925/292-0830

**Extra Clean**  
#005912 \$8 988 - fees  
**DUBLIN TOYOTA**  
925-829-7700

---

VW 1997 JETTA GL. 4 Mfr  
CD, AC, 5spd, PL, alarm, 59K  
\$7495 925-277-1265

---

VW 1996-98 Jettas, Autos  
& sticks, all mint! CDs srt  
Power! 1 8k, 1 gm, 1 blue  
flawless \$5,675-8,875 Cal  
for info #0066 0049 0100

bd. 78	VW 1995 JETTA GL, 5-spd. 71K, pl. \$6450 obo. (925) 209-1614; 925/680-4551
E bd., 24	VW 1993 Eurovan, wht., AT gd. cond. All pwr., cc, 142K \$4600 obo. (925) 787-0210
gd. uns	VW 1992 CABRIOLET/100K all pwr./AT/\$3950 obo. 925 209-1614; 925/680-4551
E bd.	VW 1991 Passat Gd. cond. 137K on 5-spd. Gd.

VW 1985 Cabriolet, Great shape, A/T, A/C, new top, brakes, & tires, must sell \$2000. (925) 935-1572

VW 1979 Bug convt. Rbl eng., stereo, new top/paint wht. \$5500 (925) 765-7600

VW 1962 Ghia. New paint. Needs inter. All orig. Must sell/best ofr. 925/323-6003

For Additional  
VW Listings  
**CLICK ON**  
ERKS.COM

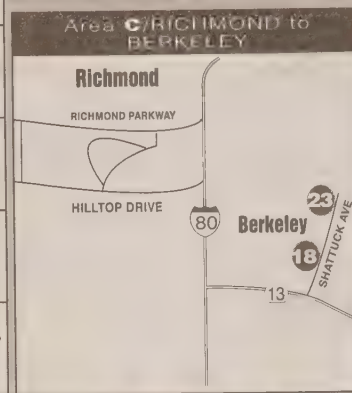
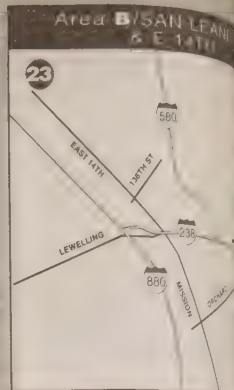
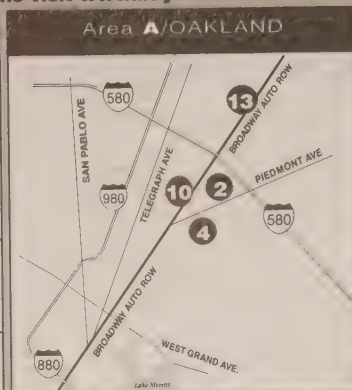
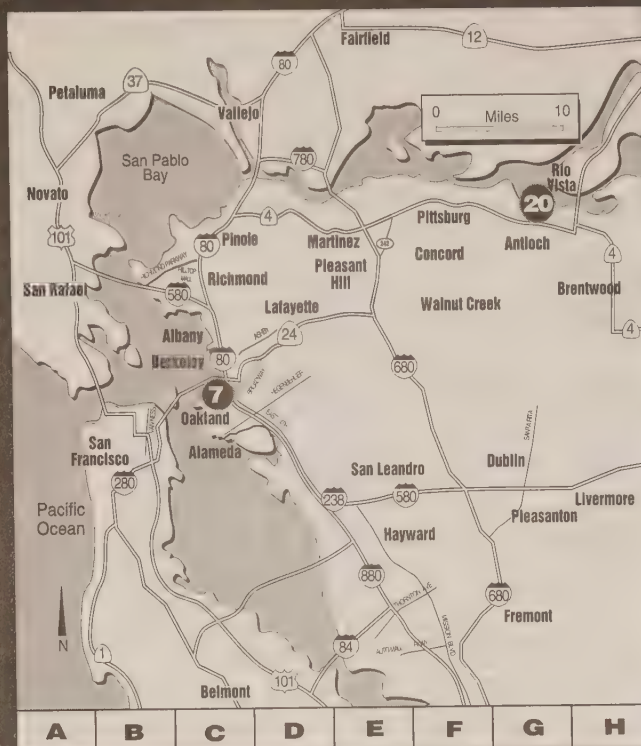
New & Used





# Hills Auto Directory

For Door-to-Door Directions visit [www.bayarea.com](http://www.bayarea.com)



 <b>ANTIOCH AUTO CENTER</b> • Toyota • Chrysler • Plymouth • Jeep • Dodge • Nissan <b>1-800-778-4888</b> <a href="http://www.antiouchautocenter.com">www.antiouchautocenter.com</a>	<b>OAKLAND'S TOYOTA STORE!</b>  <b>DOWNTOWN TOYOTA</b> 4145 BROADWAY • OAKLAND <b>510-547-4635</b>	 <b>SHOP IN COOL COMFORT!</b> 1(800)494-4220 <a href="http://www.vw.com">www.vw.com</a>	 <b>Saturn of Oakland</b> 2355 Broadway • Oakland <b>(510) 839-6400</b>
<b>CONNELL NISSAN</b>  3000 Broadway, Oakland <b>We Will Not Be Undersold!</b> <b>510-588-2100</b>	<b>VAL STROUGH</b> Chevrolet Mazda Hyundai <b>(510) 658-4700</b>	 <b>TOYOTA of Berkeley</b> 2400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley <b>(510) 845-2530</b>	 <b>CAVANAUGH MOTORS</b> 1700 Park Street, Alameda <b>(510) 523-5246</b>
 <b>TOYOTA Experience Toyota VALLEJO</b> Presidents Award for Customer Satisfaction 7 Years Running 1001 Admiral Callaghan Dr., Vallejo <b>(800) 660-5600</b>	<b>EAST BAY</b> THE FORD TRUCK/SUV HEADQUARTERS!  333 Filbert Street By Jack London Square, Oakland <b>510-272-4400</b> <a href="http://www.eastbaytruckcenter.com">www.eastbaytruckcenter.com</a>	 <b>CHEVROLET GOOD CHEVROLET</b> 1630 Park St., Alameda <b>(510) 522-9221</b>	 <b>McKevitt NISSAN</b> Little Dealer, Big Deals! <b>800/788-6386</b> <a href="http://www.mckevitt.com">www.mckevitt.com</a>

## CHEVROLET

3. Good Chevrolet Area E  
1630 Park St., Alameda  
**(510) 522-9221**
2. Val Strough Chevrolet Area A  
SALES • SERVICE • SELECTION  
3330 Broadway, Downtown Oakland,  
Broadway Auto Row  
**(510) 658-4700**

## CHRYSLER

22. Cavanaugh Motors Area E  
1700 Park Street, Alameda  
**(510) 523-5246**  
75 years serving Alameda

## DODGE

20. Antioch Dodge G-3  
Corner of Somersville & W. 10th St.  
**(925) 778-9700**

## FORD

7. East Bay Ford Truck Area C5  
333 Filbert St. • Oakland  
YOUR FORD TRUCK/SUV HEADQUARTERS!  
**(510) 272-4400**  
[www.eastbaytruckcenter.com](http://www.eastbaytruckcenter.com)

## HYUNDAI

10. Val Strough Hyundai Area A  
SALES • SERVICE • SELECTION  
3329 Broadway, Downtown Oakland,  
Broadway Auto Row  
**(510) 658-4700**

## MAZDA

4. Val Strough Mazda Area A  
SALES • SERVICE • SELECTION  
Piedmont & Broadway, Downtown Oakland,  
Broadway Auto Row  
**(510) 658-4700**

## MITSUBISHI

Oakland Mitsubishi  
2720 Broadway, Oakland  
1-800-494-3993

## NISSAN

1. Connell Nissan  
We Will Not Be Undersold  
3000 Broadway, Oakland  
**(510) 588-2100**
20. Antioch Nissan G-3  
1615 West 10th St.  
**(925) 755-2600**
23. McKevitt Nissan Area C  
2700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley  
**(510) 848-2206**

## SATURN

14. Saturn of Oakland Area A  
2355 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland  
**(510) 839-6400**

## TOYOTA

13. Downtown Toyota Area A  
4145 Broadway, Oakland  
**(510) 547-4635**
18. Toyota of Berkeley Area C  
2400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley  
**(510) 845-2530**  
[www.toyotaofberkeley.com](http://www.toyotaofberkeley.com)

20. Antioch Toyota G-3  
1810 "A" Somersville Rd.  
**(925) 778-7200**

21. Toyota Vallejo D-2  
1180 Admiral Callaghan Way, Vallejo  
**(707) 552-4545**

## VOLKSWAGEN

21. The New Broadway Volkswagen Area A  
3 Story Indoor Showroom  
2740 Broadway, Oakland  
1-800-494-4220

## VOLVO

23. McKevitt Volvo Area B  
2700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley  
**(510) 848-2206**

McKevitt Volvo Area C  
4030 International Blvd., Oakland  
**(510) 532-3778**

**cars.com**

Receive a new car quote or view pre-owned vehicles from our cars.com dealer partners. Start your car shopping at cars.com





# Shopping Plus

Friday, December 27, 2002

**Look inside** for local advertising circulars every Friday

## Top cookbooks promote foods of home and away

BY WILLIAM RICE  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

This is a banner year for cookbooks worth giving and receiving. If you didn't find one under the tree, there's still time to add one to your kitchen repertoire.

Through French restaurants are experiencing a comeback, only one book made our list of a worst-case scenario. Italy, on the other hand, is everywhere. Other geographically specific books include one from Vietnam and one on Thai food.

Three of the books contain reliable research and one is a debut in the healthful eating category.

In general, publishers have held their line on pricing, even though new books are so large, they will tend to drag into the kitchen.

"Conscious Cuisine," by Caryn L. Sauer (Sourcebooks, \$35)

This book is a lovely blend of health and vibrant colors that will bring any coffee table proud. It's also a beautifully seductive collection of international ingredients and flavors that promote more healthful eating.

Well, a Washburne Trade School graduate, began his 25-year career as a restaurant chef at the now-closed Jimmy's Place in Chicago. Yoshi Katsumura.

In classical French training, he is in good stead when, in 1978, he won the job as opening chef of the Miraval Life in Balance resort and Spa near Tucson, Ariz. He is aware that low-calorie, low-fat cuisine was also "low in taste enjoyment as well," he began to develop nutritionally balanced recipes that had "great taste" and a temporary style.

When photographs in the book and nutritional information for each recipe testify to his accomplishments. Here is a line-up of four

dramatically different recipes from the salad section: apple-banana salad, Thai roast chicken and vegetable salad, curried cauliflower salad, Southwestern black bean salad.

"Cooking From A To Z," by Patricia Yeo (St. Martin's Press, \$35) Patricia Yeo, executive chef of New York City's AZ restaurant, has produced an original collection of recipes that are approachable for a home cook with a modicum of skill and a bold palate. Not only does she hold out a helping hand, she even keeps sub-recipes to a minimum.

The book's title is cute but misleading. This is not an encyclopedia. Rather it is an appealing collection of recipes that, as she and co-author Julia Moskin write, "follow the basic outlines of American food but have the unmistakable zing and bright flavors of Asia." Fusion cooking is nothing new for this biochemist turned chef. She grew up as part of a Chinese family living in Kuala Lumpur, a culinary crossroads for Asian cooking.

Among her delightful cross-cultural creations are lemon grass gravlax, tomato-red pepper soup with garlic cream, and ginger-lacquered hot chicken wings.

"Cooking The Roman Way," by David Downie (Harper Collins, \$34.95)

In explanation of the subtitle, "Authentic recipes from the home cooks and trattorias of Rome," author David Downie points out that the city's "family-run trattorias are the extension of home tables." Both produce food that is "easy to make" and "fun to eat." But Downie, an American travel and food writer, avoids the glib, glossy prose that colors so many hymns to great



BOB FILA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

See COOKBOOKS, Page 2

THE YEAR'S TOP COOKBOOKS tackle the foods of home and abroad.

## Celebrate & Save!

**BUY NOW!**  
Pay Nothing until March, 2003!

### WHITE WINES

Carmel Pinot Grigio	\$4.99
Bruno Villa Sauvignon Blanc	\$5.99
Keweenaw Sauvignon Blanc	\$6.99
Clos Du Bois Chardonnay	\$7.99
J. Louis Rastetter Chardonnay	\$8.99
Edna Valley Chardonnay	\$9.99
Stefano Neri Chardonnay	\$10.99
La Crema Chardonnay	\$11.99
Maryvale Sauvignon Chardonnay	\$13.99
Louis Jadot Pinot-Frisch	\$15.99

### RED WINES

Keweenaw Pinot Noir	\$4.99
Louis Jadot Beaujolais-Villages	\$5.99
Rutherford V.B. Merlot	\$6.99
Blackstone California Syrah	\$7.99
Falstaff Pinot	\$8.99
Mazzeo Cabernet Sauvignon	\$9.99
J. Louis Rastetter Cabernet Sauvignon	\$10.99
BP New Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$11.99
La Crema Pinot Noir	\$12.99
Michael David 7 Deadly Zins	\$13.99

### SPARKLING WINES

Castello Bruto or Extra Dry	\$5.99
Domaine Ste. Michelle Extra Dry	\$6.99
Zabotoff Prosecco	\$7.99
Piper Heidsieck Brut	\$11.99
Domaine Chateau Blanc, Blanc de Noirs or Blanc de Blanc	\$11.99
Southern Vintages Pinot Noir Brut	\$12.99
Domaine Chateau Reserve Cuvée	\$17.99
Tattneller La Fama Pinot Noir	\$27.99
Dom Perignon	\$79.99

All wine bottles 750ml unless otherwise noted.



save 20%  
Gothic Bar & Select Wine Racks

The Gothic bar, shown, features loads of storage, handsome details and richly finished hardwood. Utility drawer, 2 adjustable shelves, brackets for glassware and 18-bottle wine rack. 48" Wx20" Dx42" H. Reg. \$399. NOW \$319. Wine rack collection, reg. \$399-\$449. NOW \$299-\$359. Gothic bar stool, reg. \$129. NOW \$99.



\$10.99  
Toasted Head Chardonnay

\$10.99  
Clos Du Bois Merlot

\$6.99  
Domaine Ste. Michelle Brut

\$15.99  
Boeder Estate Brut

\$22.99  
Moët & Chandon White Star

\$28.99  
Veuve Clicquot NY Brut



\$15.99  
save \$4  
3-Piece Martini Set

This limited set includes two classic glasses and a shaker. Reg. \$19.99. Accessories shown: Cocktail shaker, \$14.99. Strainer, \$4.99. Double Jigger, \$3.99.

save 20%  
All Champagne Flutes

Make sure you have plenty of beautiful champagne flutes for New Year's Eve and beyond. Come see our great selection. Reg. \$1.99-\$6.99. NOW \$1.59-\$5.59.



save 20%  
Metal Party Trays & Trays

Trays, reg. \$19.99 each. NOW \$15.99 each. Trays, reg. \$19.99-\$29.99. NOW \$15.99-\$23.99.



save 25%  
All Party Accessories for New Year's Eve

Ring in the New Year with hats, horns, noise makers and loads of other party essentials. Reg. \$9.99-\$29.99. NOW \$7.49-\$22.49.



**50% OFF ALL HOLIDAY BASKETS, PAPER, TRIM, CANDLES & ORNAMENTS**



50% OFF  
All Holiday Paper & Trim  
Selection varies by store. Reg. \$5.99-\$9.99. NOW \$2.99-\$4.99.



50% OFF  
All Holiday Candles & Candle Holders  
Selection varies by store. Reg. \$9.99-\$19.99. NOW \$4.99-\$9.99.



50% OFF  
All Holiday Ornaments & Decor  
Selection varies by store. Reg. \$9.99-\$14.99. NOW \$4.99-\$7.49.



save 20%  
All Mezzetta Vegetables  
Olives, peppers, capers, roasted red peppers. Reg. \$1.89-\$5.59. NOW \$1.51-\$4.47.

# COST PLUS

WORLD MARKET

Alhambra on Sacramento Blvd. • Concord in the Willows Shopping Center • Fremont on Farwell Drive • Greenbrae • Mountain View on El Camino Real • Oakland on Clay St. at Jack London Square • Pleasanton • Redding • San Francisco at Fisherman's Wharf • San Jose on Blossom Hill Rd. and also on Stevens Creek Blvd. • Hillsdale Mall • Santa Cruz on River St. at Hwy. 9 • Santa Rosa on Santa Rosa Blvd. at Heald • Vallejo in Gateway Plaza Center • Walnut Creek on S. California Blvd. • \*On purchases of \$250 or more with your World Market credit card. • Offers good while supplies last. Offers and 01/05/03. Call 1-800-COST PLUS (1-800-267-8758) for all locations and hours. Or visit us at costplusworldmarket.com.



## Cookbooks

FROM PAGE 1

cities. The lovely photographs of food raw and cooked are not glossy either. Some of the recipes he presents are classic (artichokes Roman style), many are rustic (fennel and bean soup with cherry tomatoes), and most are simple (spaghetti with pecorino Romano and black pepper).

**"Glorious French Food,"** by James Peterson (Wiley, \$45)

Having taken on the subject of sauces a decade ago, James Peterson has spent some years researching and photographing this update of classic French cooking. (To him, "classic cuisine" means old-style cooking, not just the luxury items sold in posh restaurants.) Words and ideas flow from the pages in a seemingly endless stream.

His daring attempt to unlock French cooking from the shackles of tradition is to present a master recipe, then (shades of Julia Child) to follow it with a sequence of recipes that use some of the same "building blocks" and add or subtract others. Glazed sliced carrots, therefore, become glazed whole baby carrots, then glazed or creamed onions, and so on until reaching little stuffed onions seven recipes later. This is one of 50 chapters.

He often interrupts himself to discuss grades of olive oil or snails, the nuances of sauté and fricassee or his experiences as an apprentice cook in Paris. He also includes a pronunciation guide.

**"Many Beautiful Things,"** by Vincent Schiavelli (Simon & Schuster, \$26)

There should be a rule that any list of a year's best food books must contain a memoir with the charm of "A Year in Provence" and recipes as evocative as M.F.K. Fisher's. This

year's nominee is set in the Sicilian town of Polizzi Generosa. Vincent Schiavelli's grandparents had emigrated from Sicily to Brooklyn at the turn of the 20th century. Papa Andrea, as his grandfather was known, had been a chef and shared his knowledge with young Vincent.

Along with it came tales "about a magical land where prickly pears and figs abounded, watermelons were round, and artichokes could be eaten whole." Schiavelli, a film actor and author who wrote about his grandfather in "Papa Andrea's Sicilian Table," finally visited his ancestral home in 1988, found relatives and has been back half-a-dozen times since.

Schiavelli is a dedicated cook, and the recipes he collects are first-rate representations of a cucina ruled by simplicity and tradition. Read a little, cook a little. You'll enjoy both.

**"Real Stew,"** by Clifford A. Wright (Harvard Common Press, \$18.95)

When a certified scholar takes on an amorphous subject such as stew, it's a sure bet that the result will be large. Not content with the narrow view, Clifford A. Wright sees it as a "catchall word" to describe cooking at a simmering heat. Therefore, ragouts, braises, cassoulet, gumbo, chili, curry, minestrone, bouillabaisse, stroganoff, goulash and chowder all are welcome in the pot, which has room for 300 recipes from 50 nations.

There's goat stew from Aruba, "poor folk's" peppered rabbit stew from Andalusia, a Mediterranean seafood ragout and much more new to American cooks. Wright's recipe notes are mini-lectures: scholarly, informative and sometimes droll. But however defined and wherever cooked, stew can be a marvelous taste experience. This is a book from which to cook.

**"Sara Moulton Cooks At Home,"** by Sara Moulton (Broadway, \$29.95)

Sara Moulton is living proof that nice girls can finish first. Who ever heard of a self-effacing television star? But that she is, with a show on the Food Network and regular appearances on "Good Morning, America." Her book is remarkably free of references to the culinary celebrities she knows. Instead, the focus is on family and friends, complete with photos.

She puts true foodies at ease with one simple sentence: "I have always loved to eat."

She hints at the impressive range of her recipes with another: "This is a great time to be cooking in America." Within this broad framework she can cook like a cutting-edge chef (Thai-style roasted Cornish game hen), a mom (cheesy popcorn and mini meat loaves), a teacher (rice for the rice-impaired) or party hostess (turkey burgers with tomato corn salsa). She becomes a link between the profes-

sional cook and the home cook, making complex recipes easier to decipher and adding flair to simple ones.

**"Baking In America,"** by Greg Patent (Houghton Mifflin, \$35)

From time to time, the right writer finds the right subject and after a long time — usually — a book appears that is so solid and true and timeless that it may become a classic. Such is the case with Greg Patent and his new book. The author has such an obvious passion for baking and research that a book that might have been a weighty tome is instead a good read and a clarion call to the kitchen.

In an engaging, conversational tone, Patent shares discoveries he's made in looking at two centuries of cookbooks and recipe pamphlets. Some of the 250 recipes are faithfully reproduced, others are revised and still others are his creations. Al-

most all are concise and accessible.

**"Thai Food,"** by David Thompson (Ten Speed Press, \$40)

From time to time along comes a book that wraps itself around a subject and becomes the definitive reference. So it is with this 700-page examination by restaurateur-historian David Thompson. Thompson became one of Australia's elite chefs and now cooks in London, where his restaurant nahm won a star in the Michelin Guide.

His book begins with history, culture and geography, plus 28 pages on rice. The section, "fundamentals of Thai cooking," contains recipes and menus, while "food outside the meal" touches on street food. His writing flows as he describes this "singular cuisine that is easily distinguished even from its nearest neighbors." The recipes are enticing: double-steamed duck soup

with pickled lime, green papaya salad, green papaya, sweet crispy pork.

**"Make It Happen,"** by Tom Barr (Knopf, \$29.95)

Here's a classy book for aspiring cooks with less than a year of experience. It's a find full of useful tips.

See MORE BOOKS

SENIOR RETIREMENT LIVING

DIAMOND TERRACE

GRAND OPENING

NEW IN CLAYTON ELEGANT AFFORDABLE

Studio, 1 Bedroom, 2 Bathrooms

2 meals served, Scheduled transportation, Utilities included, Computer/Internet Center, Private dining, Weekly housekeeping & fresh linens, 24 hour on-call, Social events

ALL THIS STARTING AT \$1,728 PER MONTH 1 PERSON

(925) 524-3333 6401 CENTER CLAYTON

LIMITED TIME ONLY FREE RENT 6 MONTHS

### Bay Area Drainage Solutions "For All Your Drainage Needs"

- Specializing in Residential Drainage
- French Drains
- Down Spout Drainage Systems
- Sub Drain/Sump Pumps
- Retaining Walls

925-377-9209 Office 925-683-5508 Cell

License #762208

## slate

AMERICAN SLATE COMPANY  
The Experts in Slate

Prices Less Than Hardwood Flooring  
Many Colors-Even Thickness of Tiles

Stain-proof • Non-slip • Interior/Exterior

The Finest Custom & Lightweight Slate Roofing

### Best Prices

Business Hours: Mon-Sat 8 am-5 pm

Walnut Creek  
1889 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
(925) 210-1042

San Francisco  
1775 Alameda St.  
(415) 864-7813

Los Altos  
296 State St.  
(650) 559-8900

### Replace Your Windows To...

- Reduce Condensation
- Reduce Outside Noise
- Reduce Energy Costs
- Increase Comfort
- Increase Security
- Increase Value

### Reduce Energy Costs

MARVIN  
Made for you

510-843-2330

Hours: M-F 8-5 • Sat. 10-3

Lic. #424306 • Since 1959



Free In-home Estimates

Visit Our 4,000 Sq. Ft. Showroom

V&W Patio Door & Window Co., Inc.  
2815 7th St., Berkeley

## HoneyBaked® is still your best holiday value!

Guaranteed savings on the favorites that guarantee your holiday dining success.



We haven't raised our prices in over four years!

There's just no good reason to risk the success of your holiday entertaining with an ordinary supermarket ham. Because you can treat your family and friends to a tender, juicy HoneyBaked Ham® for only 75¢ more per person. Our succulent HoneyBaked Turkey Breast is also an excellent holiday value.

We guarantee the quality and taste of everything we make, so you can relax and enjoy the holidays. And your guests can enjoy the slow smoked flavor of our famous spiral sliced premium hams, smothered in our famous crackling sweet glaze. That's why so many people have made HoneyBaked an American family tradition for over forty years. So start your own tradition right now, and take advantage of these valuable holiday discounts.

SAVE \$8.00 OFF  
A WHOLE HONEYBAKED HAM

SAVE \$4.00 OFF  
A HALF HONEYBAKED HAM

The fabulous HoneyBaked Ham®. Lean, tender and delicious. Smothered in our exclusive crackling sweet glaze. Bring home some sides to complement your meal. Not good toward gift certificate purchases. Available at participating stores only. Not good with any other offer.

Visit our website for further information on tips or serving instructions @:  
www.honeybaked.com or call us 800-854-5995



HONEYBAKED HAM®

Expires 12/31/02

BELMONT 210 El Camino Real 650-595-8551 • COLMA 111 Colma Blvd. 650-756-9892 • CONCORD 1801 Sutter Rd. 925-689-1510 • FREMONT 4959 Mowry Ave. 510-796-0336 • OAKLAND 4364 Piedmont Ave. 510-547-8292 • PALO ALTO 4113 El Camino Real 650-329-1571 • PLEASANTON 4555 Hopyard Rd. 911 925-734-9418 • SAN FRANCISCO 2190 Geary 415-931-7383 • SAN JOSE 750-A So. Winchester 408-247-3501 • SUNNYVALE 585 E. El Camino Real 408-738-8641

Unbelievably Priced...

Unmatched Durability.

Uncompromising Beauty.

Our expert decorators show you how to add luxury to your home with plantation shutters. They're beautiful and provide superior insulation, plus they won't fade, warp, chip or crack.

We will beat ANY price.

Call for a Free, No-obligation In-Home Estimate Today!

800.897.1444

The only local manufacturer

## A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A WARM HOLIDAY SEASON FROM MILGARD

FREE LoE® ENERGY EFFICIENT GLASS UPGRADE THRU 12/31/02\*

- LoE® delivers Solar Heat Gain Performance of heavy tints with an almost clear, unobstructed view.
- Acts as a barrier against heat and ultraviolet rays, barring heating or cooling from escaping the home.
- Reduces energy costs up to 19% year round
- Assists in preventing sun damage and fading of window coverings, carpets & furniture.

\*Valid at participating dealers through 12/31/02. Some restrictions apply.

VOTED #1 QUALITY BY BUILDERS' MAGAZINE • AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING

EAST COUNTY GLASS AND WINDOW, INC. (925) 432-1433  
ASHBY LUMBER CO. (925) 945-4901  
V AND W PATIO DOOR & WINDOW (510) 843-2330  
DOLAN'S LUMBER PINOLE CONCORD WALNUT CREEK TOLL FREE (800) 936-5267

Milgard Windows Clearly the







## The Brass Door

Serving the Tri-Valley Since 1955

Come celebrate  
New Year's Eve  
with us!

Serving

4:00 'til ???

Reservations Suggested

837-2501

2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd. • San Ramon  
1/4 mile north of Crow Canyon

## Winter Special!

# WEST COAST WINDOWS

FREE  
Upgrade to  
Low E<sup>+</sup> Glass  
With Minimum  
Purchase  
Expires 12/31/02

## 25% OFF

Energy Efficient  
Windows and Doors  
Expires 12/31/02

New Showroom Hours: Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Call today for your free measurements and estimate.

(925) 681-1776

2170 Commerce Ave. #C • Concord

A Division of Aaron Kaplan Construction

Lic. #472589

## Why is he so happy?



Cultured Marble

Onyx Granite

Stock Wall Sets Starting at

## \$670

installed

Does not include tear-out, wall prep., plumbing or shower doors

The Marble Store  
925-439-6888  
180 Elm Ave., #100  
www.themarblestore.com

Easy care

# Bring In The New Year With Lots of Cheer!

## For NEW YEAR'S EVE Join Us For FUN & GOOD FOOD

Your Choice of:

- New York Steak
- Fresh Salmon
- Scampi
- Roast Duck
- Sirloin Lamb
- Chicken En Croute

Includes mixed green salad

YVONNE  
Ts  
GOLDEN DRINK

From \$21.95

- Full Bar
- Catering
- Private Parties

Dinner

(925) 256-8899

2618 Pleasant Hill Rd.  
Pleasant Hill

**WPLJ's**  
Dance Club  
**\$25.00**  
BAY CITY MOBILE DJ's  
Party Favors  
Split of Champagne  
Midnight Buffet  
2112 N. Main St., Walnut Creek  
(925) 938-4140

**Muscat** French/California  
CUISINE  
(formerly La Cigale)  
Now Accepting Reservations for  
New Year's Eve  
\*16<sup>th</sup> Early Bird Special  
w/ Soup or Salad  
\*19<sup>th</sup> Executive Lunch Special  
w/ Soup or Salad  
Specials not valid on holidays  
Make Your Holiday Party Reservations Now!  
Gift Certificates Available  
Full Bar, Patio Seating, Parking Available.  
Lunch Mon-Fri. Dinner 7 Nights  
For Reservation call 925-937-8800  
2195 N. Broadway, Walnut Creek

Service with a view.

Blake's at Boundary Oak  
presents...

## BACK TO THE FUTURE

New Year's Eve 2002

A food and wine extravaganza with dancing,  
open bar, caricaturist, fortune teller, and  
"back in time" style favors

Featuring Two Package Choices:

**Dinner Package** \$150.00 per person  
Includes Multiple Course Buffet Dinner with Wine, 6-9 pm  
PLUS everything in Party Package  
**Party Package** \$75.00 per person includes  
Dancing to "JD and Company" in Our Celebration Ballroom  
From 9 pm - 1:30 am  
Party Favors and Champagne Toast at Midnight  
Light Hors d'oeuvres & Open Bar from 9 pm - 1 am  
Continental Breakfast served at 1:30 am

Be sure to ask about  
our upcoming winery  
dinner featuring the  
best of Beringer Estate  
Wines and Habitat  
for Humanity benefit  
dinner!

# B

Complimentary  
Bottle service to  
your home will be  
provided within a  
10 mile radius

Blake's

3800 Valley Vista Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 (877) 4BLAKES  
www.blakesatboundaryoak.com  
For reservations call: (925) 946-0607

## Moonrise at Quail Court Presents: A Gala New Year's Eve

Includes:

- 5 Course Dinner
- Special Wine Paired with Each Course
- Live Music & Dancing
- Hats, Horns & Giggiti
- Champagne Toast at Midnight
- Open Bar on all Well Drinks

## \$100

per person

Reservations Only!

945-0953

81 Quail Ct. • Walnut Creek



## LISA'S TEA TREASURES

### NEW YEARS EVE DINNER

Ring in the New Year with a  
little elegance. 5 Course Dinner,  
teas paired with  
each course.

Plus passed Hors D'oeuvres and  
a Champagne Toast

71 Lafayette Circle • Lafayette

One Seating Time Only - 7 pm

## \$95.00

per couple

plus tax and 17% gratuity. Add

wine pairing to each course

\$20.00 per person

For Reservations call

925-283-2226

# NEW YEARS

Ring in the New Year with  
**1000 SINGLES!**

TUES, DECEMBER 31  
8:30PM TIL 1:00AM  
SAN RAMON  
MARRIOTT  
2600 BISHOP DRIVE  
(GO TO BOLLINGER CANYON EXIT  
GO EAST TO SUNSET DRIVE, TURN LEFT)

- 2 big party rooms
- Live band & DJ
- Party favors • Balloon drop
- 12AM Champagne toast
- FREE parking
- Dress to Impress!
- Black tie optional.

LIVE MUSIC BY  
**CONTRABAND**

**\$59** INCLUDES 2 BEVERAGE TIX  
IN ADVANCE - \$69 AT THE DOOR

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT SAN RAMON MARRIOTT  
NO SERVICE FEE • GREAT ROOM RATES  
CALL OR ORDER ONLINE THRU PROFESSIONALS GUILD  
925.937.4744 • WWW.PGUILD.COM

## La Beau's Louisiana Kitchen

Christmas Dinner Buffet

From 1 til 9 PM All you can eat Tables  
and all the fixins. Includes Salad bar  
**\$17.50 per person**



**New Years Eve Dinner and Dance**  
from 5 PM to 2 AM Enjoy a complex  
Meal including choice of Steak, Caribou,  
or Chicken. Complimentary Party hats,  
makers & Champaign. Dance to the  
sounds of Decon Blues featuring Special  
**\$50.00 per person**

Reservations Recommended

For reservations call (925) 821-8218

436 Ferry St. Martinez, California

## 2 Ways to Laugh in the NEW YEAR

## Tommy T's BASH

with

## MIKE EPPS

from "Friday After Next"  
"All About The Benjamins"

Daniel Dugar

&amp;

Kenny Howell

## 2 SHOWS

8 &amp; 10 pm



A.K.A. DAVE

Includes: Dancing

Favors &amp; Late Night

## New Year's Eve at the Concord Sheraton

2 Packages:

Comedy Pkg.

John Fox

OR

Live Music

Manny Muldunado

Bob-o Phillips

\$180.00 per couple

includes a room

9 pm at the Concord Sheraton

For reservations call (925) 686-6868

TOMMY T'S

COMEDY • HOUSE

1655 WILLOW PARK

CONCORD

WWW.EPSON.COM